

20001212.qrp v02_n034.qrl.20001212

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 19:03:08 EST

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2034

QRP-L Digest 2034

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [86074] Re: (OT)PSK31 and the Ten Tec Scout/ Argo 555/556
by "Marty Purselley" <brewer@flash.net>
- 2) [86075] Re: Need Nevada?
by Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>
- 3) [86076] SMK-1: Thanks for info
by "Ken Kirkley" <ogbc@mindspring.com>
- 4) [86077] WTD: Ceramic/porcelain crystal socket
by Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
- 5) [86078] Re: Need Nevada?
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 6) [86079] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease / ultrasonic cleaner
by mugglesto@megsinet.net
- 7) [86080] AT in PA Dec. 10, 2000 Photos
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
- 8) [86081] Re: Return of the Golden Fox
by "Glenn Butzlaff" <gbutzlaff@voyager.net>
- 9) [86082] Trade
by "Tom Whalen" <wb5qyt@abq.com>
- 10) [86083] RE: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
by Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainet.net>
- 11) [86084] 10 m milliwattting
by Randy Foltz <rfoltz@turbonet.com>
- 12) [86085] Greetings from Snowy Michigan
by "Thom Durfee" <wi8w@arrl.net>
- 13) [86086] Christmas Day QRPP Beacon Annoucement
by "Brian L. Lewis" <bl@csi.com>
- 14) [86087] IC crossreference needed
by Richard Arland <rarland@earthlink.net>
- 15) [86088] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 16) [86089] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 17) [86090] Ten-Tec 1254 Receiver Kit Info
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
- 18) [86091] Color question...
by kcruise@juno.com
- 19) [86092] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases

- by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 20) [86093] Re: Ten-Tec 1254 Receiver Kit Info
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
- 21) [86094] Re: Return of the Golden Fox
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 22) [86095] Re: FYBO FD Question
by Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
- 23) [86096] ACTIVATING WYOMING QRP NEXT SUNDAY: Dec. 17, 2000
by N0BN@aol.com
- 24) [86097] ARRL 10 M Contest at W4DEC
by "Lawrence T. Owens" <w4dec@dibbs.net>
- 25) [86098] The new contesters blues
by DBirn61340@aol.com
- 26) [86099] Cub FOX K0EVZ
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
- 27) [86100] RE: Need Nevada?
by "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
- 28) [86101] 10 m contest
by "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfdn.org>
- 29) [86102] Re: The new contesters blues
by W1R0@aol.com
- 30) [86103] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
- 31) [86104] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
- 32) [86105] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
- 33) [86106] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 34) [86107] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 35) [86108] MFJ Problem
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 36) [86109] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
- 37) [86110] MFJ PROBLEM
by RangerSF5@aol.com
- 38) [86111] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by K4IA@aol.com
- 39) [86112] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
- 40) [86113] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by W1R0@aol.com
- 41) [86114] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 42) [86115] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
by w0av@juno.com
- 43) [86116] RE: Help with no tx output

by Vic Winton <Vic.Winton@trafford-press.com>
44) [86117] 10 m. contest - KA9NZI - and pirates?
by "Gary Lee Phillips" <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
45) [86118] Re: [85970] Matching Crystals [was homebrew data needed]
by Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
46) [86119] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency case
s
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
47) [86120] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency case s
by Macstein@aol.com
48) [86121] RE: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
49) [86122] Re: ACTIVATING WYOMING QRP NEXT SUNDAY: Dec. 17, 2000
by "Brian" <brian@iquest.net>
50) [86123] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
51) [86124] Re: OT: Question regarding care of aluminum antenna elements
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
52) [86125] Re: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
53) [86126] Rainbow Tuner?
by William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
54) [86127] Re: The new contesters blues
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
55) [86128] LAST EMAIL TEST
by "Dennis Morales" <dennismo2@home.com>
56) [86129] Re: OT: Question regarding care of aluminum antenna elements
by agtaylor@llnl.gov
57) [86130] Test - No Text
by K5KW@aol.com
58) [86131] Re: The new contesters blues
by ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
59) [86132] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
by schoon@amgt.com
60) [86133] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by RangerSF5@aol.com
61) [86134] Log for Cub FOX K0EVZ
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
62) [86135] Re: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
63) [86136] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
by schoon@amgt.com
64) [86137] ObQRP and Be Kind - Reply to "TEST" messages
by "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
65) [86138] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
66) [86139] Re: Ceramic/porcelain crystal
by Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>

67) [86140] Re:ZM-2 Front Panel Construction
by "Benjamin F. Poinsett" <benmail@erols.com>
68) [86141] FS: Yaesu FT900
by "Stephen Krosner" <skrosner@mindspring.com>
69) [86142] Re: What IS "Real" QRP?
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
70) [86143] RE: What IS "Real" QRP?
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
71) [86144] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
by Ray Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
72) [86145] Michigan QRP Net Tonight
by ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
73) [86146] K0EVZ Cub FOX Log 1.1
by "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
74) [86147] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
75) [86148] HR-1680 Repair
by wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
76) [86149] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
77) [86150] Re: HR-1680 Repair
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
78) [86151] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "James Parsons" <res075cz@gte.net>
79) [86152] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
80) [86153] Tranistors and Tuners
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
81) [86154] Re: Tranistors and Tuners
by Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
82) [86155] CUB FOX HUNT: Wednesday Night - N0IT
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
83) [86156] Ladder safe footing
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
84) [86157] FS: Ten-Tec 1253 Regen Receiver (built)
by "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
85) [86158] N2APB QRV in Swiss Alps on Wednesday
by "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
86) [86159] Cleaning Aluminum elements
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
87) [86160] BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
88) [86161] Re: BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
by Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
89) [86162] HYgain antenna wind test
by n2go@arrl.net
90) [86163] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
by "Don Chisholm" <don.chisholm@home.com>

- 91) [86164] Want to trade HTX-10 10 meter rig for ???
by Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
92) [86165] RE: BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
by schoon@amgt.com
93) [86166] Re: HYgain antenna wind test
by "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <k2jq@bestweb.net>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 18:01:37 -0600
From: "Marty Purselley" <brewer@flash.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86074] Re: (OT)PSK31 and the Ten Tec Scout/ Argo 555/556
Message-ID: <009201c063ce\$b3819280\$46bafea9@mlp>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I must be lucky-I use a 556 at 5 watts and although it does tend to drift, it doesn't drift that much. Ten Tec was honest and said that they didn't know if the rig would be stable enough for psk, but try it. I have and still do and it works great. I set the ALC at the 3:00 position and type away. By the way, I am using the digipan interface.

73s,

Marty AA5UN

----- Original Message -----

From: Pastor-KC1DI <elbc@pivot.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2000 13:57 PM
Subject: (OT)PSK31 and the Ten Tec Scout/ Argo 555/556

> There is a problem when attempting to run PSK31 on the Ten Tec Scout /
> Argo.. It jumps Frequency. This is due to the Radio.. and the PT0/
Computer
> compensation that Ten Tec uses.. and it varies widely sometimes between
> individual Scouts..
>
> Here is the Method I've used with my Scout that has netted almost 300
Qso's
> so far.. I've been asked several time how i've done it and thought I'd
list
> it here for all to see.

>
> 1. Run the the Scout with the Rit on.. This disables the Computer
frequency
> correction. and the drift on my Scout is not too bad .
> 2. once you make contact witht the other Station Lock the TX frequency in
> Digipan. Don't know if other Software has the same Function or not..
>
> 3. use a small fan (i salvaged one out of an old Computer and cool the
Heat
> sink.. don't exactly know why but this did make and improvement in the
> drift.
>
> 5. Keep the Power down.. I run no more than 10watts Psk.. most of the the
> time less than five.. Don't over drive the rig.. you should never see the
> ALC light come on during a psk transmission.. I set the rigs Mike gain at
> about 12 O'clock and then adjust sound card audio controls on the computer
> to give me about 15watts output on Psk.. Then reduce the Mike Gain to 10w
or
> less.. about 2 watts on the Argo.. should work.
>
> Hope this helps those that had asked.. sorry for the band width.. but
could
> not remember the addresses of the questioners.
> 73 DAVE KC1DI
>
>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 16:31:55 -0800
From: Jim Lowman <jmlowman@ix.netcom.com>
To: n1bq@wulfdn.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86075] Re: Need Nevada?
Message-ID: <3A3571FB.8FEE90F@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" wrote:

> I dunno about the whole era, but my Novice WN2YKL issued in 1961, was
> two years non-renewable and my Tech, WA2YKL, issued in 1962
> (non-concurrent and priveleges not overlapping the with the Novice) was
> five years renewable. And, the Novice took closer to six weeks to
> arrive.

My Novice ticket, issued in 1965, was ONE year, non-renewable. There could have been a change between 1961 and 1965; not sure.

72 de Jim - AD6CW

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:29:51 -0000
From: "Ken Kirkley" <ogbc@mindspring.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86076] SMK-1: Thanks for info
Message-ID: <003f01c063b1\$1e0fff60\$2cadf7a5@default>

To all who responded to my questions about the SMK-1...I say thank you. Have received MUCH useful info that I have saved. Hope to order one sometime in Jan. Am getting ready to order the SW+40 from SWL as I type. Just have to open the browser and place the order...then it will be time to "melt solder". hihi

73 & God Bless,
Ken/N04D

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 16:39:22 -0800
From: Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86077] WTD: Ceramic/porcelain crystal socket
Message-ID: <20001211.164012.-262867.0.sigcom@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group,

I've scrounged the swap meets and have had zero luck. I'm looking for a ceramic/porcelain socket for FT-243 crystals. This is the one about 1-1/4" long and 3/8" wide with the mounting holes on the flange, not one in the center like some other sockets. You know the one I'm talking about. Anybody have one they will let go of? I do have one on my original 6L6 Novice transmitter (The Scrounger) but I'm not touching it! Too sentimental :-).

I have a couple of the bakelite sockets, but I'm trying to fill a larger hole in the panel of a rig I'm re-building and the ceramic socket will do the trick.

Thanks,

73.....Steve, WB6TNL The Scrounger
Oxnard, CA USA "snort rosin"

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Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:02:31 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: jmlowman@ix.netcom.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86078] Re: Need Nevada?
Message-ID: <87.420e203.2766d327@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/11/00 7:32:12 PM Eastern Standard Time,
jmlowman@ix.netcom.com writes:

<<

My Novice ticket, issued in 1965, was ONE year, non-renewable. There
could have been a change between 1961 and 1965; not sure.

72 de Jim - AD6CW

>>

I received my Novice in 1974 as a WN and after getting 1,000 QSL cards
printed up a month later FCC changed my call to WA:((((
When my 1 year was just about coming up they went to 2 years.
When that 2 years was just about up it went to 10 years. It was then I
started traveling the States skydiving and never worked Ham Radio again until
I upgraded to General in 86
How can I find out if my call is a reissued call?
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 17:58:38 -0700 (MST)
From: mugglesto@megsinet.net
To: M05aaa01 <merryprankster@CWCOM.NET>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86079] Re: Variable Cap Bearing Grease / ultrasonic cleaner

Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012111755310.1990-1000000@mugleston.mugs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I would be careful using an ultrasonic cleaner. I spend 7 years in the jewelery indistry and learned one thing about them - if anything is loose the vibrations can tear some things apart. Something hard will cut through something soft (diamond/gold) saw a lot of stones fall out of loose settings. Chains wear faster too.

They were great for solid items and getting gunk out of stuff but we were real careful about moving parts.

de KI00T, Brad

On Mon, 11 Dec 2000, M05aaa01 wrote:

> They seem to sell a kind of small ultrasonic jewellery cleaner in ARGOS /
> UK,
> for a few quid 20'sh I wonder if one of these would clean, electronic bits
> and pieces. They are a lot smaller than the "proper" jewellers versions.
> I have been thinking of buying one.
> Maybe I can get one on that 30 day refund a lot of store have.
> Then if its as useful as that, Ice fireguard, glass hammer, I can take it
> back!
> Bob
>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:31:37 -0500
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, ". NJ QRP-L" <njqrp@njqrp.org>
Subject: [86080] AT in PA Dec. 10, 2000 Photos
Message-ID: <020301c063db\$45f44d40\$ca1a5cd1@wb3aal>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello,

Pictures from my hike are on this page. Page down
and click on the last link December 10, 2000.

<http://www.n3epa.org/Pages/AT/AT%20in%20PA.htm>

Enjoy!

Have a Safe & Happy Holidays!

72 & 73
Good DXing

Ron Polityka
de WB3AAL
wb3aal@fast.net

vvv Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Web Page vvv
<http://www.n3epa.org>
Eastern Pennsylvania QRP Club Call
N3EPA E-mail address: n3epa@fast.net

EPA QRP #1	ARRL Life Member
KL7 QRP # 309	G-QRP # 3031
ARCI QRP # 5318	10 - X #13173
NorCal	Zombie #625
ARS # 380	HI QRP #153
VA QRP Society #45	MI QRP #1703
K2 sn1392	NJ QRP #179

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:32:16 -0800
From: "Glenn Butzlauff" <gbutzlauff@voyager.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86081] Re: Return of the Golden Fox
Message-ID: <000901c063ec\$20f913c0\$c144cfa9@biff>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dear Management,
I am looking forward to the run of "The Golden Fox". As a new season ticket holder, I have a concern regarding your concurrent running of the rock concert featuring: The Clandestine Buzzsaws, the "a cappella group" Illegal Amigos, and the Notorious Lids, featuring their hit "I Tune On Your QSO". I see a potential conflict in fully enjoying the "Golden Fox" if the concert isn't rescheduled. Your consideration in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Glenn Butzlaff

----- Original Message -----

From: Bob Tellefsen <n6wg@earthlink.net>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Monday, December 11, 2000 2:44 PM

Subject: Return of the Golden Fox

> Ladies and gentlemen of the fox hunting community, good evening and
welcome
> once again to our Forty Meter Playhouse. This season we are pleased to
> present a revival of that popular play, CQ FOX, that has pleased sell-out
> crowds in years past. This has certainly been the best-received play in
our
> repertoire.
>
> After several seasons touring Europe, Asia, and South America, the popular
> Golden Fox, N6WG, now returns to our stage to portray the lead character,
> Fox. His performances in past presentations have always filled the house
> with enthusiastic audiences. We invite you all to attend this gala
opening
> Friday, December 16 UTC (Thursday evening, local time). The curtain goes
up
> at 0200 UTC.
>
> The Golden Fox has asked us to announce that he enjoys interacting with
the
> audience, and will be particularly attentive to the audience between rows
> 7040 and 7044. Those seats should fill up quickly.
>
> Please obtain your tickets early for this outstanding theater event.
> Tickets may be obtained by calling the theater box office at FOX-HUNTR,
> through Mr. Ticket on-line, or at the door. We hope you will enjoy this
> presentation.
>
> Thank you and good evening.
>
> The Management
> Forty Meter Playhouse
> for N6WG The Golden Fox
>
>
>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 18:25:28 -0700
From: "Tom Whalen" <wb5qyt@abq.com>
To: "\"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion\"" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86082] Trade
Message-ID: <MABBIKAEJKMHLIDDGMCKEEDDCBAA.wb5qyt@abq.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Trade: Ten Tec 544 80-10 mtr Xcvr 100 watt but will qrp, nice filters for cw, fast qsk.

Wanted: Ten Tec 509 or 515.

Tnx and 72, Tom WB5QYT..."Have spud will travel!"

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:45:02 -0600
From: Nick Kennedy <nkennedy@tcainet.net>
To: "'aa4lr@arrl.net'" <aa4lr@arrl.net>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86083] RE: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <01C063AA.DB2B1DC0.nkennedy@tcainet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Bill Coleman [SMTP:aa4lr@arrl.net]

On 12/10/00 5:34 PM, James R. Duffey at jamesd1@flash.net wrote:

>> The additional loss due to the 9:1 SWR in the 450 Ohm ladder line is
>>about 0.5 dB.

>How did you get this? How can the feedline have four times more loss due
>to SWR?

>True, the loss of the line affects the reflections caused by the
>mismatched condition, but since most of the power is delivered, and not
>reflected, the losses in the reflections should diminish.

Well of course loss goes up with SWR. And 9:1 isn't an insignificant SWR. Most of the incident wave is going to be reflected. True, it hits the tuner and bounces back toward the antenna, but those multiple back and forth trips certainly do increase losses.

I don't think the Doc was saying that this example makes coax superior to ladder line, just that ladder line doesn't always lead to lowest losses. Neither is superior--it depends on the application and practical factors already discussed in this thread.

72--Nick, WA5BDU

... currently enjoying a 180 foot dipole with 450 ohm line and a Johnson Matchbox

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 17:53:09 -0800
From: Randy Foltz <rfoltz@turbonet.com>
To: qrp1_post <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86084] 10 m milliwatting
Message-ID: <3A358505.21C946AC@turbonet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I didn't have much time for playing in the 10 m contest, so I decided to go for milliwatt contacts to Japan around sundown here in ID. I'd done 200 mW to JA using a GAP vertical, but I wanted to use less power.

At 2230 Z on Saturday I went to W7UQ, the club station of the University of Idaho which has a TH7DXX at 90 feet. I used my old Triton IV because it can go lower than the K2. In 2 hours I made 5 contacts as follows:

VR2BG - 700 mW - 9,560 miles per watt
LU1FC - 1,000 mW - 6,440 mpw
JH1AEP - 125 mW - 40,160 mpw
ZL1ETP - 150 mW - 49,170 mpw
JN2PYQ - 50 mW - 103,200 mpw

Only the last one had any trouble hearing me, but we made it after 2 or 3 tries. I tried 4 or 5 other contacts at 25 mW, but no one could hear me.

I came home a happy QRPp op.

73,
Randy, K7TQ
Moscow, ID

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 01:54:48 -0000
From: "Thom Durfee" <wi8w@arrl.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86085] Greetings from Snowy Michigan
Message-ID: <009c01c063de\$826f5dc0\$b50e1f40@bignet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy,

12 inches and counting!

As Steve N4EUK has mentioned, as of December 10, 2000, I have taken over the Awards Manager position for QRPARCI.

I personally want to thank Steve for the wonderful job he has done over the last few years in managing this program. He has done his best to get me off on the right foot and I hope that I can do as fine a job as he has.

Now for a few new things.

1. Because of the increases in postage (especially to foreign countries) and printing costs, I submitted a proposal to the Board of Directors of QRPARCI asking to raise the fees that will be charged for the awards beginning January 1, 2001. The current fee (\$2, \$3) is over 20 years old. Inflation has taken it's toll and the program is not self-supporting at the old levels.

The BoD has approved the following change:

For Award Applications postmarked after December 31, 2000. If you want a award at the old rate, make sure it is postmarked on or before December 31.

US and possessions : \$4 for each certificate issued.
Outside the US : \$5 for each certificate issued

US Funds only.

Personal Checks are not accepted. They are a real big hassle for me and my

bank and they take forever to clear which will delay your award being processed.

Money Orders (made out to Thom Durfee) and money transfers via <http://www.paypal.com> are gladly accepted. If you are going to use Paypal please send me a note via email before you do it so I can look for it. Currently, I believe that Paypal can only be used for applications made in the US. This may change.

2. From now until January 5, 2001 I will not be issuing any award certificates. Award applications received either thru Steve or by me after December 10 will be filed in the order received for processing after January 5, 2001.

Tis the holiday season you know and I have a move planned (into a new house with ton's of antenna space) late December - January.

My current ISP says 8 weeks to transfer my DSL Internet Connection from my old address to my new one, so I will be switching my Internet services to Cable. I hope to have it back up and running before January 5. Of course I can still use my dial-up connection provided by my employer.

Everything else will be about the same as it was with Steve.

Remember when submitting a application, make sure the forms are properly filled out and that I can read your writing. Make sure to provide proof of any and all contacts (do not send me any QSL Cards!) a GCR list willl do. I can do any endorsement you can come up with, just make sure your proof reflects that endorsement applied for. Finally make sure you enclose a money order for the proper amount and that it is made out to me.

I look forward to hearing from you.

73,

Thom Durfee WI8W
wi8w@arrl.net
<http://www.braarc.net>
QRPARCI #4015
QRP-L #1761
SOC #249
ARS #760
FP #165

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:09:52 -0600
From: "Brian L. Lewis" <bl@csi.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86086] Christmas Day QRPp Beacon Annoucement
Message-ID: <3A3588F0.69DDF829@csi.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

QRPer's--

On Christmas Day (December 25, 2000) at 2300 UTC, after all the presents have been opened and dinner is through, sneak back to the shack and hook up all the new ham radio toys and give a good listen.

I will be transmitting for 2 hours at 250mw on 7044 (plus or minus a tad).

The message will be as follows:

VVVV de K5RV 250mw **** de K5RV k

The four stars will be the "secret word". (4 second delay between each transmission)

Once you have copied the "secret word", email me at beacon@5watts.com with the word you copied, your callsign, and your QTH. I will post the first 50 reports (with the correct "secret word") to the www.5watts.com website.

For more information, go to www.5watts.com or email me.

Merry Christmas and have fun with ham radio.

72/73,

Brian Lewis
K5RV

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 21:17:34 -0500
From: Richard Arland <rarland@earthlink.net>
To: Eastern PA QRP Club <epaqrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, QRP List <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86087] IC crossreference needed

Message-ID: <3A358ABE.76B7450F@earthlink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang:

I need a cross to either NTE or SK series replacement for an AMTEL 507 24C01A or AMTEL 742 24C04 IC. This is an 8 pin DIP package.

73 es TNX

Rich K7SZ

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:26:41 -0700

From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>

To: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@atlnet.com>, qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [86088] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed

Message-ID: <B65ADAF1.41B5%jamesd1@flash.net>

Mime-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Bill - Thanks for your question on my post on transmission line loss:

"How did you get this? How can the feedline have four times more loss due to SWR?"

I got those numbers from a nice little chart that used to be in the ARRL Handbook and Antenna Book. It is no longer included in my copy of the 18th edition of the Antenna Book, for reasons which befuddle me. I interpolated as there is no curve for 9:1 SWR, and the chart starts at 0.2 dB line loss. You can also calculate it exactly and you should get about the same numbers I did.

Actually your analysis about the reflections wasting power for each round trip is OK, but is controversial for some people.

You can look at it another way though. The average current and voltage in the transmission line increase when the SWR increases from 1:1. Several transmission line treatises and programs will show this. The losses in a feedline are due to three reasons, the Ohmic, or $(I^2) \cdot R$ losses, the dielectric losses, or V^2/R losses, and radiation losses. Radiation losses are low and independent of SWR. The Ohmic losses and dielectric losses both will increase as the average current and voltage in the transmission line have increased. As these increase so will the losses.

I hope that I have not further muddled the issue. - Duffey

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:32:37 -0700
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>, qrp-l <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86089] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <B65ADC55.41B7%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Rick - Thanks for your comments. I was trying to point out that in some configurations balanced line feeders do not have lower losses than coax. Having a single antenna is not unusual in QRP arenas. I agree, for all band use, balanced feeders have certain advantages. - Duffey

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:01:34 -0800
From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>
To: "'qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86090] Ten-Tec 1254 Receiver Kit Info
Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76884@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

Has anyone built one of these kits and care to comment on them or pass along a link to a review. Thanks in advance.

W. H. Phinizy, K6WHP
Principal Engineer
FileNET Corporation

"modern technology is a wonderful thing if you don't have to rely on it.."

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:07:31 -0800
From: kcruise@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86091] Color question...
Message-ID: <20001211.190734.-313879.0.kcruise@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Okay, I have a good place for a longwire antenna. My only thought is that it'll be spotted where it is. Any thoughts to painting it? Or maybe a small guage wire might work?

Ke1

GET INTERNET ACCESS FROM JUNO!
Juno offers FREE or PREMIUM Internet access for less!
Join Juno today! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:12:22 -0700
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>, qrp-1 <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86092] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
Message-ID: <B65AE5A6.41B9%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="ISO-8859-1"
Content-transfer-encoding: quoted-printable

Stuart - Your points are well presented.

I had to search high and low to find loss values for the 72 Ohm balanced line you discuss. I finally found a table in my 1956 ARRL Handbook. Two 75 Ohm balanced feeders are listed; Belden numbers 14-080 and 14-023. The 14-023 has the lowest losses, 0.5 dB/100 ft at 7 MHz, and the 14-080 is 0.6 dB/100 ft at 7 MHz. This is squarely between the two common 75 Ohm coaxes, RG-59 at 0.8 dB/100 ft and RG-11 at 0.4 dB/100 ft. RG-213 is about 0.5 dB/100 ft at 7 MHz. Perhaps our British cousins can come up with more recent figures than these? Moxon only states that the losses from low impedance balanced feeders is comparable to coax. This is consistent with the above figures.

With these losses, there is no advantage in going to 75 Ohm balanced feeders from 50 Ohm or 75 Ohm coax.

Why don't the low impedance balanced feeders exhibit the same low losses that we have come to expect from common 450 Ohm window line and even 300 Ohm TV line?

There are three loss mechanisms for feeders; Radiation, dielectric, and Ohmic. For closely spaced balanced feeders, radiation losses are minimal. Dielectric losses are proportional to the average voltage in the line and are low for most good dielectrics such as air, polyethylene, and Teflon. The Ohmic losses are proportional to the current and the conductor resistance. As the line impedance goes up, the average transmission line current goes down, which results in lower Ohmic losses. The tradeoff is in the dielectric losses which increase as the voltage rises. These losses are already low, so it is a good tradeoff; the Ohmic losses drop faster than the dielectric losses rise as the impedance is increased.

So there isn't much to be gained by going to 72 Ohm balanced feeders over coax. Teflon is not a substantially lower loss dielectric than polyethylene; it is often recommended as it has a much higher breakdown voltage.

I hope that this helps. - Dr. Megacycle KK6MC/5

=20

--=20

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 19:13:12 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: wphinizy@filenet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86093] Re: Ten-Tec 1254 Receiver Kit Info
Message-ID: <3A3597C8.DDCA963E@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Phinizy, William" wrote:

>

> Has anyone built one of these kits and care to comment on them or pass along
> a link to a review. Thanks in advance.

>

>

A Google search got me this:

<http://www.mtechnologies.com/tt1254/1254.htm>

This may also be of interest:

http://lists.contesting.com/_tentec/199812/0138.html

73, Phil W7OX

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 21:16:01 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: Bob Tellefsen <n6wg@earthlink.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86094] Re: Return of the Golden Fox
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1001211211536.32242A-1000000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I have my ticket and welcome back to the Golden Fox!

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - SOC #11 & #12 - Whiner#10 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" oo#148 "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 20:26:18 -0700
From: Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: BrenSmth@cs.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu, elecrafft@qth.net
Subject: [86095] Re: FYBO FD Question
Message-ID: <200012120320.UAA18913@enterprise.extremezone.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

At 07:23 PM 12/11/2000 -0500, you wrote:

>Please help me with this question ...

>

>So ... I need to get a clarification on the "rules" so we can figure out how
>to organize ourselves this year for FYBO FD. What I need to know basically
is

>... Specifically, is the event restricted to "single transmitter"
operations.

>In other words, can we simultaneously run different transmitters on
different

>bands under the same call sign during the event? I expect we have enough
>interest to get 5-10 op's out this year for the event. We have several
>choices .

Single transmitter, multi- op OK, Multi-multi, not OK. You can use as many
transmitters as you want, but only one band at a time. If you want to work
two bands at once, with the same call, you're multi-single or multi-multi,
and that's a no-no.

>

>(1) Run under 2 different call signs and act as 2 separate entries (not a
bad

>idea, but has some logistical problems with antennas and proximity)

>

That's OK.

>(2) Limit the size of the group to 3-4 op's (undesirable from my point of
>view)

>

Also OK.

>(3) Run a multi-transmitter operation (not sure if that's permissible under
>the rules)

>

Nope, not permissible.

>So ... what's the situation. Is a multi-transmitter operation OK? Or do we
>run under 2 call signs with smaller groups? Pls advise. Tnx - 72 - K04PY -
>Brent

>

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 22:35:47 EST

From: N0BN@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86096] ACTIVATING WYOMING QRP NEXT SUNDAY: Dec. 17, 2000
Message-ID: <e3.d814c55.2766f713@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Friends,

Thanks to Del k17hf, Layton ke3zz, Brian n1bq and Dave kh6sv for setting up skeds so I could finish WAS CW. Most of the last harder-to-get contacts were QRP but I'm not there yet.

By way of spreading the fun (and needed contacts) I plan to drive to Wyoming next Sunday and hopefully be on the air from near Cheyenne between about 1800 and 2100 Z, give or take. I intend to operate mostly between 14040-14060 but can do other bands depending on conditions or request. I may head up to 14010 or so, if the selected frequencies are too busy. If I go to 40 M, the range would be 7040-7060, or up to 7110 or so. I may well operate in the Novice/Tech Plus subband for part of the time, particularly if I get some requests to do so.

I will likely operate out of my Subaru with 5 Watts from Yaesu FT7B into my Hustler antenna.

Although I'm working on my speed and passed the 20 wpm W1aw Qualifying Run a few weeks ago, I am most comfortable and have the most fun at 15 wpm so please QRS. I'm not a tester so one at a time please!

If you have any special requests, please let me know in advance and I'll see what I can do.

72/73,

Daniel n0bn
Bailey, Co

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 21:38:21 -0600
From: "Lawrence T. Owens" <w4dec@dibbs.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86097] ARRL 10 M Contest at W4DEC
Message-ID: <3A359DAD.49DB@dibbs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang & QRP testers:

Summary of my operations during the 10 meter contest.

Exchanged Info: W4DEC 599 AL :

Power a little less than 5 Watts:

Operating time 22 hours 11 minutes:

Mode	QSOs	Points	Mults	
CW	415	1660	93	
Phone	161	322	59	
Total	576	1982	152	Score 301,264

This is subject to revision by ARRL when they score the Cabrillo File:

Did not come up to my 732 QSOs of last year. I think maybe due to band shutting down earlier at this QTH this year. Last year had a run of over a hundred QSOs after 8PM local on Saturday. This year the band closed here at about 7:30 PM local on Saturday night.

Equipment used was the Elecraft K2. Fed the triband beam into Antenna input #1 and the 160 Meter inverted Vee into antenna input #2. The internal ATU worked like a charm. Feeding the antennas directly into the back of the K2 eliminated any losses due to switches.

Hope all of you had as much fun as I did.

72 es good luck.

Larry (W4DEC)

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 22:51:50 EST

From: DBirn61340@aol.com

To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [86098] The new tester blues

Message-ID: <b8.ef4ce43.2766fad7@aol.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If AOL didn't eat this message then I found the back door in 6.0 using the AOL mail on the web thing someone suggested.

I've been very grateful for all of the help on this list and the wonderful advice on getting my code speed to the point where I can copy those contest exchanges without listening to them 3 times (or more). I enjoy playing in the contests and

handing out points but the serious addiction is setting in and I am trying to figure how I work more stations. I'm getting sort of bummed reading about how someone with 127.3 milliwatts to a window frame worked more stations in 2 hrs between mowing the lawn, changing the baby, and making dinner that I did in 16 hrs of going at it with my 5 whole watts and 2 so-so antennas. My score in the SS was so low that at the end everyone asked for a repeat on my serial number because it was just incomprehensible that someone would hang in there so long with such low score. I swallowed my pride and kept at it anyway and my code speed went way up that weekend even if my score was crummy.

So could some of the testers out there us give some advice on how you work those stations so fast. I spend a lot of time searching, my pounces seem to miss a lot and CQ ing doesn't seem to work so hot either. What am I missing here?

Dan
AD6JY@arrl.net

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 23:16:47 -0500
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>, "W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [86099] Cub FOX K0EVZ
Message-ID: <200012112317_MC2-BE3D-145C@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Well thanks for everyone who dropped by tonight :-). Log later, but the total number of pelts =3D 42. There were plenty of callers until about 0328...when lo and behold the band apparently died. I QSYed a little bit=

,
but got only 2 QSOes in the remainder of the hunt.

Thanks again and happy holidays to everyone. Remember that we will have =
a
DOUBLE Cub FOX hunt this coming Wednesday evening. Promises to be fun, s=
o
let's everyone turn out.

72,
--Doc/K0EVZ

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 23:54:44 -0500
From: "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfden.org>
To: <jmllowman@ix.netcom.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86100] RE: Need Nevada?
Message-ID: <LPBBJAGIPFHKPJENAKLOAECIDDAA.n1bq@wulfden.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Jim Lowman

> Sent: Monday, December 11, 2000 19:32 PM

>

> "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" wrote:

>

> > I dunno about the whole era, but my Novice WN2YKL issued

> in 1961, was

> > two years non-renewable and my Tech, WA2YKL, issued in 1962

> > (non-concurrent and privileges not overlapping the with the

> Novice) was

> > five years renewable. And, the Novice took closer to six weeks to

> > arrive.

>

> My Novice ticket, issued in 1965, was ONE year, non-renewable. There

> could have been a change between 1961 and 1965; not sure.

I am thinking I am going to have to back off my "two years" statement ... I was pretty sure it was. I and I seem to remember the 'overlap' as being more than a few months hmmm the more I think about it I got my Novice in Fall 61 and tech in Feb 62 that gives the overlap that feels better in the dim recesses of my mind! (what's left of it anyway!) Sorry for the mixup ... but it did take 6 weeks, sure wasn't any 2-3 weeks!!

72 de brian, n1bq

Date: Mon, 11 Dec 2000 23:54:45 -0500
From: "Brian B. Riley, N1BQ" <n1bq@wulfden.org>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86101] 10 m contest

Message-ID: <LPBBJAGIPFHKPJENAKLOCECIDDA.n1bq@wulfdn.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I worked SSB only my DX77T running 5 watts to a 17 foot vertical ... of course I do have that "vermont" advantage, there were, as best I can tell only 6-10 of us on the air ... 2/3rds or more of my contacts were "new multipliers" for the station worked. To be honest saying "... N1BQ Vermont" worked more magic than "... N1BQ/QRP" ...

worked about 26 hours total
330 QSOs
43 states
9 provinces/territories
48 countries

TR says my raw score is 60,720 ... I count it different but not by much ... I was fairly happy with TR if only because I could run it on my cheap (\$30 at hamfest) DOS laptop. It worked very well. I had fun, but I await my next round as FOX ...

72 de brian, n1bq

--
N1BQ-3 @ 44 31.73N 072 51.55W
WideN-N digi and weather station in Underhill Center, VT
mailto:n1bq@wulfdn.org
AMSAT LM-1418 NJQRP #274
QRP-L #2276 Zombie #768

--
Brian B. Riley --> <http://members.macconnect.com/~brianbr>
<mailto:brianbr@wulfdn.org>
<mailto:n1bq@amsat.org>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 00:26:36 EST
From: W1R0@aol.com
To: DBirn61340@aol.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86102] Re: The new tester blues
Message-ID: <ba.eace3b5.2767110c@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hang in there you're doing good.

Sunday morning as I attempted to turn my little HF5B butterfly beam from south to east nothing happened. So I switched to the Roof Flashing antenna on my 2 story flat roof house for a few contacts until I figured out what to do. Made about 10 contacts off the roof flashing the hard way before climbing up on the roof and manually resetting the beam east. That was it for the rest of the contest.

Cause of the problem--a 10 cent piece of plastic broke inside the rotor control box. Those things only break when you need them.

Keep it putting out the RF you'll only get better at it!!!

Jim

W1RO/7

QRP-L#2208

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 06:52:06 -0000
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: <k5di@zianet.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86103] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <200012121145.GAA14817@hat-trick.atl.org>

Karl-

I am looking into purchasing a Pegasus and don't understand your comments. With the exception of the user interface, the Pegasus and Jupiter are the same radio.

TT gives you a copy of the source code so changes are easy.

I have not purchased yet as I wanted to play with the RX320 for a while (same RX)

to see if the RX quality is personally acceptable for a portable/backup transceiver.

-bob

| From: Karl F. Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
| To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
| Subject: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
| Date: Monday, December 11, 2000 10:50 PM

|
|
| Today I went back to Sam's home w0yu and we loaded the Pegasus
| software he got free from the Ten Tec web page and when we brought it up
| the screen on the Jupiter radio went blank with the picture of a horse,
| and we could tune and operate the radio from the image of a radio on the
| computer. Tuning the freequency was strange until you got the hang of
| things, and the other stuff worked just fine.

| After playing with the radio on the computer for 30 minutes we
| turned it off and removed the parallel port cable and agreed anyone who
| bought the Pagasis radio was not happy. At least Sam and I would not be.

I
| don't think Sam will ever hook it up again.

| Yours Truly,

| - Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -
|

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 06:54:13 -0000
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: <k5di@zianet.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86104] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <200012121147.GAA14825@hat-trick.atl.org>

Karl-

TT makes it very clear on their web page that this is the same radio.
Do you guys want to sell that Jupiter at used Peg price :-)

BTW, TT has a few demos of the RX320 for \$260.

Regular price is \$295 or 299, not sure.

Order from www site.

-bob

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 06:59:03 -0000
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: <jamesd1@flash.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86105] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency
cases
Message-ID: <200012121152.GAA14834@hat-trick.atl.org>

> So there isn't much to be gained by going to 72 Ohm balanced feeders over
> coax. Teflon is not a substantially lower loss dielectric than
polyethylene;
> it is often recommended as it has a much higher breakdown voltage.

Not in terms of feedline loss.

It's great if you are feeding a dipole or other balanced antenna with a
link coupled or other (balanced) output :-)

-bob

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 05:38:13 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Bob Duckworth <wb4mnf@atl.org>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86106] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012120523350.781-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 12 Dec 2000, Bob Duckworth wrote:

> Karl-
>
> I am looking into purchasing a Pegasus and don't understand your comments.
> With the exception of the user interface, the Pegasus and Jupiter are the
> same radio.

You may have discovered my ignorance. I have never seen a Pegasus
and have just seen and used the Pegasus software connected to a Jupiter
Radio. It sure does transfer all the functionality from the Jupiter front
panel to the computer.

That said, I will not buy a radio that doesn't have a front panel
with a *REAL* tuning knob and all the knobs and things you need. The
Jupitor has this as shown on page 27 of the December QST.

> TT gives you a copy of the source code so changes are easy.

That's interesting. What compiler do you need?

> I have not purchased yet as I wanted to play with the RX320 for a while
> (same RX)
> to see if the RX quality is personally acceptable for a portable/backup
> transceiver.
>

I have made spectrum measurements of the Jupiter passband with the Gram software and a MFJ Noise Bridge, and tuned around on 10 meters with no antenna. There are 4 strong birdies on 10 meters and a low level s1 birdie or other effect on all frequencies.

The passband is not square like a good crystal filter. It has a rounded appearance which is due to the DSP filter. I did listen to the 10 meter contest and the receiver sounds good on both ssb and cw. On CW the automatic notch is worthless; it notches out the guy your talking to....:-)

```
> -bob
>
>
> | Date: Monday, December 11, 2000 10:50 PM
> |
> |
> | Today I went back to Sam's home w0yu and we loaded the Pegasus
> | software he got free from the Ten Tec web page and when we brought it up
> | the screen on the Jupiter radio went blank with the picture of a horse,
```

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 05:40:27 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Bob Duckworth <wb4mnf@atl.org>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86107] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012120539500.781-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Nope, Sam says it's a keeper, but like all radios it is not perfect.

On Tue, 12 Dec 2000, Bob Duckworth wrote:

```
>
> Karl-
> TT makes it very clear on their web page that this is the same radio.
> Do you guys want to sell that Jupiter at used Peg price :-)
>
> BTW, TT has a few demos of the RX320 for $260.
> Regular price is $295 or 299, not sure.
```

> Order from www site.
> -bob
>
>

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 05:55:21 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86108] MFJ Problem
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012120551000.781-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

A friend bought a new MFJ-941E antenna tuner on my recommendation that they are quality equipment. Alas I was fooled by MFJ. My old 941 tuners have well made capacitors with 2 bearing surfaces front and rear. The new MFJ tuners have a single front bearing that is sloppy.

I will NOT recommend any MFJ product until they fix this problem.

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:09:23 -0000
From: "Bob Duckworth" <wb4mnf@atl.org>
To: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86109] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <200012121303.IAA14902@hat-trick.atl.org>

Karl-

Thanks for writing.
Spectrum measurements are definitely useful
Can you put on a www page?
I wouldn't expect Jup/Peg to be as good as R7 on RX.

Download RX320 schematic from TT site.
It's essentially a dual conversion with DSP detector.
This is great for SW defined modes.
I still need copy of Jup/Peg schema to see how TX modes
are generated. SW defined RX and TX mode will make this a
very versitile radio for the \$

Compiler for Peg/Jup/RX320 SW is
GCC

Main radios here are Drake TR7/R7 and Astro103
Main QRP is Argonaut which Peg(if purchased) will replace

RX320 looks like it has plenty of room for performance enhancing
modifications. Ordered and should show up tomorrow. I expect to
post prelim report this weekend and detailed end of Jan.

-bob

| That said, I will not buy a radio that doesn't have a front panel
| with a *REAL* tuning knob and all the knobs and things you need. The
| Jupiter has this as shown on page 27 of the December QST.

| > TT gives you a copy of the source code so changes are easy.

| That's interesting. What compiler do you need?

.....
| >

| I have made spectrum measurements of the Jupiter passband with the
| Gram software and a MFJ Noise Bridge, and tuned around on 10 meters with
| no antenna. There are 4 strong birdies on 10 meters and a low level s1
| birdie or other effect on all frequencies.

| The passband is not square like a good crystal filter. It has a
| rounded appearance which is due to the DSP filter. I did listen to the 10
| meter contest and the receiver sounds good on both ssb and cw. On CW the
| automatic notch is worthless; it notches out the guy your talking
to...:-)
|

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:13:24 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86110] MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <cc.e00b603.27677e74@aol.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/12/00 7:55:28 AM Eastern Standard Time, k5di@zianet.com writes:

<<

A friend bought a new MFJ-941E antenna tuner on my recommendation that they are quality equipment. Alas I was fooled by MFJ. My old 941 tuners have well made capacitors with 2 bearing surfaces front and rear. The new MFJ tuners have a single front bearing that is sloppy.

>>

To be honest with you I can't see how so many of the better caps survived. The plate spacing between the plates are so close MFJ should offer a FREE fire extinguisher with every tuner.

I have my eye on the MFJ roller inductor but I hear very little about it. However the price seems OK.

Bob

WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:26:33 EST
From: K4IA@aol.com
To: RangerSF5@aol.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86111] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <f2.57ada40.27678189@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I sampled MFJs Cadillac of a tuner, the 989C, (\$359) at my local HRO store. It was not a floor sample or demo. It was new -- right out of the box.

The transmitter cap knob fell off in my hand and would not fit back on the shaft without turning freely. The roller inductor bound up and made grinding noises. There was a very bad and obvious cold solder joint on one of the caps. All this without applying any RF. Who knows what else may have gone wrong. My embarrassed salesman said they check every one before going out of the store because of problems like this. I would caution against buying one unless you get to play with it first.

On the other hand, I got a used 949E on eBay and it works great. It does not have the roller inductor. That part seems to cause a lot of headaches.

Radio K4IA
Craig Buck
Fredericksburg, Virginia USA
QRP ARCI #2550 FISTS #6702 CC 708

For cheap long distance, 800#s and more
Tune to http://www.ld.net/?bucksavers

4.9 cents/min - no monthly fees

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 06:33:02 -0700
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <RangerSF5@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86112] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <000e01c06440\$0dcb84a0\$2add070c@callahan>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have the MFJ 986 945d 945e 971 tunners and never experienced any problems
even when using the 986 at 600 watts out maby I have been just lucky 72 Cal
KF7ET misplaced Vermonter in Idaho

----- Original Message -----

From: <RangerSF5@aol.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2000 6:13 AM
Subject: MFJ PROBLEM

>

> In a message dated 12/12/00 7:55:28 AM Eastern Standard Time,
k5di@zianet.com

> writes:

>

> <<

> A friend bought a new MFJ-941E antenna tuner on my recommendation
> that they are quality equipment. Alas I was fooled by MFJ. My old 941
> tuners have well made capacitors with 2 bearing surfaces front and rear.
> The new MFJ tuners have a single front bearing that is sloppy.

> >>

> To be honest with you I can't see how so many of the better caps survived.
> The plate spacing between the plates are so close MFJ should offer a FREE
> fire extinguisher with every tuner.
> I have my eye on the MFJ roller inductor but I hear very little about it.
> However the price seems OK.

> Bob
> WA2HOQrp <tm>
>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 09:06:42 EST
From: W1R0@aol.com
To: RangerSF5@aol.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86113] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <1e.e72ceb6.27678af2@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As a former Ham Radio salesman, I offer the following regarding MFJ. If you can't inspect it on the inside before you buy it....."buyer beware". We did not inspect any MFJ units before they were shipped. We had good luck and bad luck. It appeared to me the production was similiar to the story you hear about not buying a car built on Monday or Friday, due to the employee state of mind on those days. I've used some MFJ products here in the shack and had good luck and bad luck. Word of caution on the power levels for their tuners. Check all their literature on the subject. I seem to remember they had a way of making the legal limit something less than a KW.

72
Jim
W1R0/7

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 09:27:29 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <W1R0@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86114] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <00d201c06447\$aaaf03b20\$2101a8c0@insydesw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Word of caution on the power levels for their
> tuners. Check all their literature on the subject. I seem to
> remember they had a way of making the legal limit something
> less than a KW.
> 72
> Jim
> W1R0/7

As an MFJ owner, I'm quite pleased, but I have to 'sorta agree' with the above statement.

I think the MFJ ratings are valid, but only under a load that doesn't need the tuner to begin with.

Where the MFJ can get into problems is with reactive loads and the tuner has to 'tune' it out. Suddenly you have a lot of reactance in the tuner with voltage peaks that can arc over long before the power limit is reached.

My little tiny MFJ tuner... 250W?? No way! Into a long wire (like an old fence on a camping trip) or something else radical, it's 50W or even less, max!

But it makes a FANTASTIC QRP tuner!!! For that I love the thing.

I have to ask though, seriously... Who really expects the products like the MFJ at the prices MFJ charges to perform in all respects like the products that cost 2 and 3 times as much?

Mike

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:40:44 -0600
From: w0av@juno.com
To: wb4mnf@atl.org
Cc: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86115] Re: Jupiter from Ten Tec also Pegasus
Message-ID: <20001212.144324.-446763.0.w0av@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Bob,

About a year ago, I bought a Pegasus on a 30-day trial deal and gave it a good workout at my station.

I found only three I did not like:

1. At the time, TenTec did not supply a service manual,

some schematic or parts list, although they said that
evidently information would be released "later." They
the field. felt that the Pegasus was not really repairable in

although 2. There was no provision for an external speaker,
the internal speaker is OK.

"breakthrough" 3. During the day, the 160M band suffered from
caused by a local daylight-only AM station on 1140
KHz.
This was cured by the use of an antenna tuner

I must state that the Pegasus performed exceptionally well on CW and SSB
and was a pleasure (for me) to operate.

TenTec did not hesitate to authorize return of the unit and a full refund
of my credit card charges, except for shipping charges to me. I paid for
the return UPS shipping.

I suggest that you try the 30-day trial offer. It will allow you time to
see whether or not you like the Pegasus.

In my opinion, it is a real bargain. If it had 6-meter capability I
would definitely have kept it.

I have just ordered a Kenwood TS2000 from AES (to replace my trusty
TS940SAT), but I'm not sure when it will arrive. In the meantime, I
continue to enjoy my K2.

Sorry about the bandwidth, but I felt obligated to describe my positive
experience with the Pegasus and TenTec.

72/73/74 de George/W0AV
SOC#101
Hamming since 1935

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:43:11 -0000
From: Vic Winton <Vic.Winton@trafford-press.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <grp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86116] RE: Help with no tx output
Message-ID: <C94AC5B1B413D411ABDC009027177A641CE3@TRAFFORD01>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Hi Gang,
Hi gang,

Thanks to everyone for the ideas.

The background is : A long list of faults in the last 3 weeks ie
Wife's car locks failed
My car window motor failed
Cooker failed
Central heating boiler failed
TV failed
Heating valve failed
Fridge failed
Now rigs up the creek

So, went home last night ready to have a methodical evening in the shack
testing everything.

No power...I mean no power to the house at all !! No heating, no food, no
wife (gone to see mother for 2 days), no dog (ok so I don't have a dog) and
no power.....

Power company traced fault to underground cable. Restored temporary power at
Midnight. Too late for me... I was in bed.

Try again tonight.....

Oh add to the list, the central heating programmer failed this morning

I 'll let you know how I get on....thanks again

Regards,

Vic Winton

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:48:35 -0600
From: "Gary Lee Phillips" <ka9nzi@arrl.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86117] 10 m. contest - KA9NZI - and pirates?
Message-ID: <200012121448.JAA19439@blount.mail.mindspring.net>

Fits right into the discussion over when 10 m is/is not open that

went on here a week or so back.

I spent about 10 hours Saturday and Sunday, CW only, and my observation would be that even though the flux was only in the 130s, the band was open. However, the openings to various parts of the world didn't last as long, and things went dead very quickly at sunset.

I can't speak for the east coasters, but here on the "central" coast (Great Lakes basin) Europe was definitely possible but only from about 8 to 11 am local time.

I was mainly hunting for new DX countries, so these results are affected by that (I got lots of multipliers, but didn't work many stations for points to multiply):

QSOs: 61

US States: 15

Canada: 4

DXCC countries: 29

Total multipliers: 48

Claimed score: 11712

This was with an HTX-100 (5 watts nominal) to a G5RV at 40 ft.

Despite relatively poor conditions for DX, I added nine new countries, mostly in the West Indies, but also including Libya (5A0HV), Moldova (ER100), Fernando de Noronha (PY0FF), and Mali (TZ6DX). I enjoyed working a number of these right under the noses of US QRO stations who were blatting away running other stateside (loud) signals and apparently unaware that relatively rare DX was sitting right on their frequency.

Oceania, which is usually workable for me in the late afternoon, was not heard at all on either day. Neither was Japan. South America, usually quite loud by midafternoon, was pretty weak. But I got South Africa (ZS6Z) at 1313 local time on Saturday, which would seem odd given the conditions (Europe was already long dead by then) except I can often hear the South African beacon on 28.200 even after sunset my local time. Must be something funny about my exact QTH and/or my antenna.

Pirates in a contest? I'm beginning to wonder. I worked WP3Z (Puerto Rico, or should be) in the CQWW a couple of weeks ago, and then couldn't find an address for them. Thought it might be a brand new call assignment, but they still aren't in the FCC database or any of the usual places. Figured I copied the call wrong, and then worked them again in this contest.

Listened carefully, and that is definitely the call they are using.
Also worked AL2A (Alaska) this time, who likewise is "unlisted".

If it had been SSB, I would readily believe these were pirates
of some sort. But on CW, in a contest? Just doesn't suit my
image of the typical unlicensed/illicit operation. Oh, and the
usual "freebander" phone operations were much in evidence on
the 10 m. CW segment during the contest, causing lots of
yucky QRM.

-- Gary Phillips, Marengo, IL <mailto:ka9nzi@arrl.net>
KA9NZI, Seneca Twp., McHenry Co., IL Grid: EN52rg
QRP-L #2124 <http://www.qsl.net/ka9nzi/>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:00:23 -0700
From: Tayloe Dan-P26412 <Dan.Tayloe@motorola.com>
To: "QRPL (E-mail)" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86118] Re: [85970] Matching Crystals [was homebrew data needed]
Message-ID: <87568F78ABDCD211A0AC0008C707718B029D110A@az10exm03.sat.mot.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

>>I have two questions concerning components for use in homebrew projects.
>>
>>
>>Second, when building a crystal filter and you want the crystals to be
>>matched, how many do you need to order in hopes of getting say four that
>>match closely?
>>What is cost to order them matched? I'd rather do it myself.
>>
>>Thanks
>>Alex, N4BYJ

>And before the discussion gets started. It does not matter a hill of beans
>whether the crystal tester oscillates the crystal in series or parallel
mode.
>You just want all the crystals to oscillate at the same frequency and
either mode
>will do.

Unfortunately, the oscillation mode does indeed matter. I have built a
number
of homebrew crystal filters and recall the time when I misplaced my test
crystal

oscillator and quickly built a new one. I had built myself a little sweep frequency VFO specifically for tuning up crystal filters using a scope and quickly discovered that this filter was a mess.

I went on a more determined hunt, found my old test oscillator, and found that using the resonant mode, the crystals were very indeed poorly matched.

Offhand, I cannot recall the desired mode, series or parallel resonant.

My experience is that 20 random crystals will often give crystals for one nice 6 pole filter, and usually at least more one 4 pole filter.

- Dan Tayloe, N7VE; Phoenix, Az; Az ScQRPions

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:17:30 -0500
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86119] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency case
s
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC016B9BD8@kahless.arrl.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

The off center fed dipole may meet the requirements for a mechanically simple multiband antenna with moderately low losses when fed by coax. However, it is rather complex electrically, since interactions with the environment and the feedline can be considerable. I've written a rather long article that should appear next year in QEX, complete with a set of EZNEC models to help readers understand the complexities of this antenna. My studies show that one cannot assume a balun designed according to the 4x rule impedance rule will adequately decouple the coax.
--Zack Lau W1VT

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:25:45 EST
From: Macstein@aol.com
To: zlau@arrl.org, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86120] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency case
s
Message-ID: <a7.9e2e9d5.27679d79@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/12/00 10:23:24 AM Eastern Standard Time, zlau@arrl.org writes:

> I've written a rather long
> article that should appear next year in QEX, complete with a set of EZNEC
> models to help readers
> understand the complexities of this antenna.

Oh wow, THANKS Zack! I'll look forward to that issue!

72

-MAC-

AF4PS

Odessa, FL "Home of the Infamous Attic Dipole" and K2 #643

QRP-L # 704, FISTS #5096, CC #754, NorCal #1998, Zombie #510,
ARCI #9843, AR QRP #257, HI QRP #83, ARS # 751, Whiners #5,
SOC #28, West FL QRP, Flying Pig QRP #-51...
and various other annual \$15 commitments.

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:26:47 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: "nkennedy@tcainternet.com" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>, "QRP" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86121] RE: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <200012121526.KAA13537@atlnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/11/00 20:45, Nick Kennedy at nkennedy@tcainternet.com wrote:

>>> The additional loss due to the 9:1 SWR in the 450 Ohm ladder line is
>>>about 0.5 dB.
>
>>How did you get this? How can the feedline have four times more loss due
>>to SWR?

>
>>True, the loss of the line affects the reflections caused by the
>>mismatched condition, but since most of the power is delivered, and not
>>reflected, the losses in the reflections should diminish.
>
>Well of course loss goes up with SWR. And 9:1 isn't an insignificant SWR.
> Most of the incident wave is going to be reflected. True, it hits the
>tuner and bounces back toward the antenna, but those multiple back and
>forth trips certainly do increase losses.

Ok, I had to sit down and figure this out by hand.

At 9:1 SWR, a touch more than 60% of the forward power is reflected back. I was thinking the reflected power would be less than half, so therefore most of the energy gets to the load. So long as the SWR is less than about 5, most of the energy put into the transmission line makes it to the load. In those cases, the additional loss due to SWR must be lower than the loss measured in the matched condition.

It just struck me as odd that the loss due to SWR was higher than that in the matched condition. But if much of the power is reflected, it makes sense. And with this many reflections, it compounds some of the loss in the tuner as well.

>I don't think the Doc was saying that this example makes coax superior to
>ladder line, just that ladder line doesn't always lead to lowest losses.

I'd submit that for a SINGLE FREQUENCY antenna system, using an unmatched transmission line is probably a poor choice, regardless if it is coax or open wire. We can easily eliminate the SWR losses in this single scenario by introducing a 9:1 transformer at the load.

But the original intent was to provide an antenna system that covers a broad range of frequencies, and the antenna represents a wide range of impedances. In those cases, use of open wire would appear to be more appropriate than coax.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:42:17 -0500
From: "Brian" <brian@iquest.net>

To: <N0BN@aol.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86122] Re: ACTIVATING WYOMING QRP NEXT SUNDAY: Dec. 17, 2000
Message-ID: <004101c06452\$1bc539e0\$2305080a@cincom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

TNX for doing this. I know of several that need WY for WAS. My WY is
SSB/QRP so I will most certainly try to find you so I can have a WY CW
contact in that slot. I need 40m and 20m.

72

----- Original Message -----

From: <N0BN@aol.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2000 10:35 PM
Subject: ACTIVATING WYOMING QRP NEXT SUNDAY: Dec. 17, 2000

> Friends,
>
> Thanks to Del k17hf, Layton ke3zz, Brian n1bq and Dave kh6sv for setting
up
> skeds so I could finish WAS CW. Most of the last harder-to-get contacts
were
> QRP but I'm not there yet.
>
> By way of spreading the fun (and needed contacts) I plan to drive to
Wyoming
> next Sunday and hopefully be on the air from near Cheyenne between about
1800
> and 2100 Z, give or take. I intend to operate mostly between 14040-14060
but
> can do other bands depending on conditions or request. I may head up to
> 14010 or so, if the selected frequencies are too busy. If I go to 40 M,
the
> range would be 7040-7060, or up to 7110 or so. I may well operate in the
> Novice/Tech Plus subband for part of the time, particularly if I get some
> requests to do so.
>
> I will likely operate out of my Subaru with 5 Watts from Yaesu FT7B into
my
> Hustler antenna.
>

> Although I'm working on my speed and passed the 20 wpm W1aw Qualifying Run
> a
> few weeks ago, I am most comfortable and have the most fun at 15 wpm so
> please QRS. I'm not a contesteer so one at a time please!
>
> If you have any special requests, please let me know in advance and I'll
> see
> what I can do.
>
> 72/73,
>
> Daniel n0bn
> Bailey, Co
>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 07:42:04 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: zlau@arrl.org
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86123] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
Message-ID: <3A36474C.8A558D9F@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Lau, Zack, W1VT" wrote:

>
> The off center fed dipole may meet the requirements for a mechanically
> simple multiband antenna
> with moderately low losses when fed by coax. However, it is rather complex
> electrically, since
> interactions with the environment and the feedline can be considerable.
> I've written a rather long
> article that should appear next year in QEX, complete with a set of EZNEC
> models to help readers
> understand the complexities of this antenna.

Great news; I'll be watching for that one. I assume the on-going QST
series will not steal your thunder :-;

73, Phil W7OX

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:46:49 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <agtaylor@llnl.gov>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86124] Re: OT: Question regarding care of aluminum antenna elements
Message-ID: <200012121546.KAA13901@atlnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/11/00 18:11, agtaylor@llnl.gov at agtaylor@llnl.gov wrote:

>My main station antenna is about to come down for a good cleaning and
>overhaul. I suspect there is a 'best' aluminum cleaner to use. Could
>someone who has been through this process please enlighten me.

Unless your antenna has some severe corrosion, I'd question your desire to "clean" the aluminum. Aluminum normally oxidizes quickly. In fact, the aluminum oxide creates a hard, durable coating about 50 molecules thick that prevents further oxidation.

>I
>have both a OSH hardware and Home Depot stores available. OK, now that
>the stuff is shiny and clean, what should I put on the joints to
>KEEP them clean (or at least conductive!).

In the joints, put a thin layer of No-Al-Ox or Penetrox. No-Al-Ox is available at Home Depot. This stuff is a petroleum grease with suspended zinc particles. The grease keeps corrosion-causing moisture out of the joint, and the zinc particles help with the conductivity.

>I saw on the Butternut
>site that they have some stuff for aluminum tubing, some sort of a
>paste.

One of the Butternut products has suspended copper particles. Not recommended for aluminum antennas, due to dissimilar metal corrosion. (Zinc is pretty close to aluminum, and does not cause such corrosion)

> Is there a more available source of such? What is it known
>by generically? Any special instructions for the overall process that
>I am undertaking?

I bought an 8oz No-Al-Ox bottle at Home Depot for less than \$10. Should last a number of years.

Use a thin layer. Careful with this stuff. If it gets in your clothing, it doesn't come out easy.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:47:55 -0500
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86125] Re: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed
Message-ID: <05a701c06452\$e7893a40\$010044c0@baycty1.mi.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----
From: "Bill Coleman" <aa4lr@arrl.net>
Subject: RE: Balanced Line vs. Coax Feed

> But the original intent was to provide an antenna system that covers a
> broad range of frequencies, and the antenna represents a wide range of
> impedances. In those cases, use of open wire would appear to be more
> appropriate than coax.

Remember that, although the losses are higher at higher SWR, depending on the feedline type, length, and the frequency of operation, they may still be pretty small. On the other hand, the transformation from the unbalanced, low impedance transmitter to the balanced, high impedance feedline will involve some losses. I submit that in a great many cases, the latter will outweigh the former, or at least the two will be close enough that one needs to seriously consider the convenience issues of the balanced line and getting it into the shack.

At the end of the day, it's impossible to say, as a general statement, that this or that approach is 'better'. You still need to engage brain, understand your own situation, do the calculations, THEN make the choice.

72/73 de WB8RCR <http://members.home.com/wb8rcr/index.htm>
didileydadidah QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 11:16:20 -0500 (EST)
From: William McFadden <wmcfadde@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86126] Rainbow Tuner?
Message-ID: <200012121616.LAA15664@oucsace.cs.ohiou.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm looking for a Rainbow Tuner, either built or unbuilt. Does anyone have one available?

--

W. Eric McFadden WD8RIF Athens OH
wd8rif@qsl.net
<http://www.qsl.net/wd8rif>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 11:31:29 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <DBirn61340@aol.com>, "QRP" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86127] Re: The new contester blues
Message-ID: <200012121631.LAA14671@atlnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/11/00 22:51, DBirn61340@aol.com at DBirn61340@aol.com wrote:

>I'm
>getting sort of bummed reading about how someone with 127.3 milliwatts to
>a window frame worked more stations in 2 hrs between mowing the lawn,
>changing the baby, and making dinner that I did in 16 hrs of going at it
>with my 5 whole watts and 2 so-so antennas.

Don't get bummed. Take some solace in that it is humanly possible to make contacts more efficiently. Try to determine what factors distinguish you and the other operators. See if there's something you can improve in your station or skills that would make for improving your score.

In contesting, antennas are very important. This is especially true with low power or QRP operation. Do whatever you can to improve your antennas. Put up a gain antenna if you can. Directional gain helps both in getting your signal into a target area, and in allowing you to eliminate QRM from other areas.

>My score in the SS was so low
>that at the end everyone asked for a repeat on my serial number because it
>was just incomphrensible that someone would hang in there so long with
>such low score.

Nah. A lot of people just get on SS for a short while, many appearing Sunday afternoon with low serial numbers. Don't sweat it.

I know I operated only 45 minutes of CW SS. No big deal.

>So could some of the testers out there us give some advice on how you
>work those stations so fast.

The key way to make contacts faster in a contest is to call CQ, not S & P. But calling CQ requires that you are actually getting responses. If you call CQ for a minute or two and don't get any replies, you are probably better off S & Ping.

The second way to make contacts faster is to S & P efficiently. Often, you'll tune around and find a station to work, and try to call him, only to be beat out by someone else. Don't sit around when this happens. Use your second VFO (if you have one) and turn around for another station to work. Then flip back to the first VFO and try to call the station again. This is especially effective in SS because the exchange is so long.

The third way to make contacts faster is not to waste too much time trying to make a difficult or impossible contact. If you call someone a couple of times, and he CQs in your face, give up. You're just not making the circuit. It isn't just a QRP thing, either. I learned this lesson running low power, but I found it also applies running QRO at NQ4I's M/M station. Sometimes the propagation just isn't there, or the other guy just can't hear.

It's a little different if you keep getting beat out -- the CQing station keeps answering other stations than you. You can try a little harder, especially if it is a new mult. But again, you have to use some judgement to know when to give up. Why spend 10 minutes trying to break through an impossible pileup when QRP when you could have made 5 other easier contats.

>I spend a lot of time searching, my pounces
>seem to miss a lot and CQ ing doesn't seem to work so hot either.

Keep at it. It comes with practice.

One of the things I've learned is to listen to the quality of the signal. Backscatter signals sound different from normal propagation and are often

harder contacts to complete. (You typically hear backscatter on relatively close, QRO stations) Thin, watery sounding signals indicate DX propagation either long distances or through the geomagnetic pole. These could be great multipliers or difficult contacts.

Work on your CW skills. Be able to pick out callsigns on the first try. Quickly skip stations that are duplicates.

One other suggestion is to listen to good contest ops when you can. This may be when you are "in" the contest but not taking it too seriously.

Good contest operating involves a lot of listening. Get on the air every day and practice tuning around and identifying stations. Note where signals are coming from and what they sound like.

I hope this helps.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 08:50:18 -0800
From: "Dennis Morales" <dennismo2@home.com>
To: "QRP-L List" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86128] LAST EMAIL TEST
Message-ID: <008301c0645b\$9bf4ff20\$bc7f8bac@santab1.ca.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sri for the bandwidth. Gotta get this system working!

73 de Denny AD6EZ <><

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 09:01:09 -0800 (PST)
From: agtaylor@llnl.gov
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86129] Re: OT: Question regarding care of aluminum antenna elements
Message-ID: <200012121701.JAA27969@poptop.llnl.gov>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/plain; CHARSET=US-ASCII

Thanks for the good suggestions (I received several). Thanks all and see you on the bands.

K7GT

--

Allan G Taylor

agtaylor@llnl.gov

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 12:07:46 EST
From: K5KW@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86130] Test - No Text
Message-ID: <ea.e805c19.2767b562@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 12:11:47 -0500
From: ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
To: aa4lr@arrl.net
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86131] Re: The new contester blues
Message-ID: <052569B3.005E9197.00@usabhmg99.mail.delphiauto.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

My 2 cents:

Turn the ACG off (if you can) and turn the RF gain way down so only the strongest stations can be heard. This makes you concentrate on stations that are more likely to hear you. Make sure your offset is correct. Many operate contests with very narrow filters. If your offset is off you may be outside of their receive bandwidth.

Ed AB8DF

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 09:46:55 -0800
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <RangerSF5@aol.com>
Subject: [86132] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-001212174655Z-405@mail.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just purchased the 300 watt version - 969, and immediatley opened the case when I got home. The roller inductor is kinda strange if you're used to the old style where the roller is on the outside of the inductor and stays fixed while the entire coil is rotated. MFJ is just the opposite - the coil stays fixed and the roller spins around on the inside of the coil. There were some tuner settings that caused one of the caps to arc over - even at 100 watts. I really wasn't all that happy with it and just about took it back to HRO. Bad news is I was past their 15 days for returns.... Oh well, the tuner does work but my only complaints is that it feels cheap and the tuner as a whole is light. I need to keep a hand on it while spinning the inductor handle. I might add some weight to it later.... All in all, given a choice about it - I would have hunted around the swap meets for some large caps and a roller inductor to build my own. Probably cost more, but it would have been a higher quality than the MFJ.....

72

.mark

>-----
>From: RangerSF5@aol.com[SMTP:RangerSF5@aol.com]
>Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2000 5:13 AM
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
>Subject: MFJ PROBLEM
>
>
>In a message dated 12/12/00 7:55:28 AM Eastern Standard Time, k5di@zianet.com
>writes:
>
><<
> A friend bought a new MFJ-941E antenna tuner on my recommendation
> that they are quality equipment. Alas I was fooled by MFJ. My old 941

> tuners have well made capacitors with 2 bearing surfaces front and rear.
> The new MFJ tuners have a single front bearing that is sloppy.
> >>
>To be honest with you I can't see how so many of the better caps survived.
>The plate spacing between the plates are so close MFJ should offer a FREE
>fire extinguisher with every tuner.
>I have my eye on the MFJ roller inductor but I hear very little about it.
>However the price seems OK.
>Bob
>WA2HOQrp <tm>
>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 12:51:30 EST
From: RangerSF5@aol.com
To: K4IA@aol.com, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86133] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <b9.979d7fd.2767bfa2@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 12/12/00 8:28:36 AM Eastern Standard Time, K4IA@aol.com writes:

<< noises. There was a very bad and obvious cold solder joint on one of the caps. All this without applying any RF. Who knows what else may have gone wrong. My embarrassed salesman said they check every one before going out of the store because of problems like this. I would caution against buying one >>

Thanks for the info.

I decided to go with a commercial tuner.

Ever take a peek inside of a Drake,KNWD,tuner?

I Like the MFJ QRP rigs but they can trash the tuners.

I have 2 caps here and a nice copper # 10 GA coil I formed by winding around a small can.

It's in a nice metal case and all I need now is a selector knob.

The problem with home brewing is the search for parts.

I do have to say one thing and that is the small tuner MFJ came out with a long time ago was nothing but a small black box, no meters and it tuned just about everything.

While I'm on the topic of the MFJ tuners,

Some of them exhibit a sweet spot in 2 and maybe 3 different places on the inductor selector.

How do you tell what one is the right one?

Bob
WA2HQrp <tm>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 12:53:05 -0500
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>
Cc: ")W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [86134] Log for Cub FOX K0EVZ
Message-ID: <200012121253_MC2-BE41-3E10@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Here is my draft log for last evening's Cub FOX hunt. Please send me any
corrections ASAP, so we may post it to the web page and scoring site.

Time	Call	RST	S/P/C	Name	Pwr
0200	N8VAR	559	OH	Ron	5w
0203	N0TU	599	CO	Steve	5w
0204	N4SO	599	AL	Ken	5w
0206	W5YR	559	TX	Geo	5w
0207	N5IB	559	LA	Jim	5w
0209	AC5JH	559	OK	Tom	1w
0211	W8YMO	569	OH	Harry	5w
0213	W9WIS	599	WI	Mike	4w
0216	WA7TQK	559	ID	Bill	5w
0218	KC4URI	449	VA	Steve	5w
0222	W0CH	579	MO	Dave	5w
0223	WE6W	559	CA	Ed	5w
0224	N8IE	589	OH	Dan	5w
0230	NV4T	559	KY	Bill	5w
0233	W8PIG	589	OH	Dan	5w
0235	N4ROA	559	VA	Dan	4w
0237	WB8ICN	589	MI	Ken	5w
0238	K5DI	579	NM	Karl	5w
0241	K5PSH	559	TX	Jerry	4w

0243	KC8LTL	559	MI	Ken	5w

0245	KC1FB	589	CT	Jim	5w
0246	WA7SPY	559	CA	Glenn	5w
0248	AF4LQ	569	KY	Mike	5w
0250	WA7LNW	559	UT	Jack	5w
0251	AF4PS	559	FL	Mac	4w

0253	K4FB	569	AL	Paul	5w
0254	NV4V	579	KY	Pete	5w
0258	K4TJD	559	PA	Tom	4w
0259	AA7EQ	559	AZ	Bob	5w
0303	W3PNL	559	PA	Joe	3w

0305	KK5LD	559	TX	Dan	5w
0307	K9IUA	599	ND	Kevin	5w
0309	AJ4AY	559	AL	Jay	5w
0310	KR5C	599	TX	George	5w
0313	K5DW	559	TX	Don	2w

0314	W9UQB	559	AZ	Mike	5w
0317	WD5CMA	559	LA	Gloria	900milliwatts
0321	W2XN	329	FL	Fred	5w
0328	N04D	229	SC	Pete	5w
0332	N10DL	339	NH	Aron	5w

0353	KG4FGK	559	NC	Ken	5w
0000	K0EVZ	ND Doc Da FOX :-)			
42 total Cub FOX pelts, 22 S/P/C					

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 12:56:07 -0500
 From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
 To: <wb8rcr@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
 Subject: [86135] Re: Balanced LIne vs. Coax Feed
 Message-ID: <200012121756.MAA16199@atlnet.com>
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/12/00 10:47, John J. McDonough at wb8rcr@arrl.net wrote:

>Remember that, although the losses are higher at higher SWR, depending on
 >the feedline type, length, and the frequency of operation, they may still be
 >pretty small. On the other hand, the transformation from the unbalanced,
 >low impedance transmitter to the balanced, high impedance feedline will
 >involve some losses.

Yes, but with a well-designed tuner, these losses are also small.

> I submit that in a great many cases, the latter will
> outweigh the former, or at least the two will be close enough that one needs
> to seriously consider the convenience issues of the balanced line and
> getting it into the shack.

I use a compromise myself, known as a remote balun. I use a conventional unbalanced tuner, and run a short run of coax outside the building to a 1:1 balun which connects to the open wire.

Yes, there are losses in the coax and the balun. There are a couple of caveats in this system. First, I only use solid-dielectric coax (RG-8 or RG-213). While foam dielectric coax would have less loss, it also has a lower breakdown voltage. Considering the coax will be carrying a complex impedance, changes are good that a high voltage point may appear in the coax.

Second, use a 1:1 balun. While a 4:1 or 9:1 balun might seem to make sense, given the difference in characteristic impedance, these types of baluns don't work well with complex impedances. I also use a big core for the job, a 2 kW balun for a station that never runs more than 100 watts. For a full gallon, I'd use even bigger cores.

The whole idea is to lower loss, while maintaining the advantages of open wire and coax. It's a compromise, but it has worked well from two different locations.

> At the end of the day, it's impossible to say, as a general statement, that
> this or that approach is 'better'. You still need to engage brain,
> understand your own situation, do the calculations, THEN make the choice.

Yup.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:04:43 -0800
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>, <RangerSF5@aol.com>
Subject: [86136] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-001212180443Z-409@mail.amgt.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>While I'm on the topic of the MFJ tuners,
>Some of them exhibit a sweet spot in 2 and maybe 3 different places on the
>inductor selector.
>How do you tell what one is the right one?

Well, I always pick the setting that uses the most capacitance on the antenna cap and the minimum amount of inductance. The inductor is where the vast majority of the losses will be. Check out the ARRL TIS site as they have a few articles on how to tune a tuner....

72

.mark

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:05:13 -0500 (EST)
From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@oakland.edu>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86137] ObQRP and Be Kind - Reply to "TEST" messages
Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.4.21.0012121246370.1473-1000000@saturn4.acs.oakland.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

A friendly reminder...

It is only thoughtful for QRP-L subscribers to respond to all test messages posted here. Of course, make sure that you reply DIRECTLY to the sender, and don't copy the QRP-L list.

Remember, it's the only way the sender will know for certain that all 3,000+ subscribers received their important "TEST - DO NOT READ" message. And what better way to let them know their posting works than several hundred "QSL!" responses in the ol' "INBOX?"

If you want to send a TEST message to QRP-L, just type out some QRP tidbit that we'd all like to read anyway! If it works, great we all benefit from a great post - if not, fix it and retry sending the message.

More QRP-L help files are available here - bookmark it:
<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko/qrpplc.htm>

ObQRP: Guess who is QRP on PSK31? Me! Can you believe that? As of Sunday night, I actually have a computer in the ham shack and have made THREE PSK QSOs. Has seen the weather report for Hell recently?

Brrrrrrrr

73! =paul= W8KC

Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics.

Visit the Virtual Ten*Tec Museum at:

<<http://www.acs.oakland.edu/~prvalko>>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:30:26 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86138] Re: Coax vs. balanced line for 72 ohm case OR multifrequency cases
Message-ID: <005a01c06471\$fadccbb0\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

Hi Jim,

Very good points. VERY INTERESTING that the similarity falls together. Yes, I was thinking of the old Amphenol line (similar to Belden I am sure,) that was solid dielectric for the "receiving" version and the transmitting versions. I am not sure if the British line is open construction like the former (open) Saxon line, or full poly dielectric like the Amphenol and Belden products.

Your handbook findings are very interesting. Might have to put up a little dipole test range out back with one fed with coax and one with 450 ohm ladder line, and try various bands with same transmatch and compare field strengths. Someone should document the beliefs we all pass along. I have hardly used my FS meter with bandswitching that I bought at Ham Com a couple years back. It would make a good test tool for comparing the antenna output from a coax fed dipole matched on more than resonant band, vs. the ladder line fed one.

I imagine the best way would be to put one up, run a test, and then sub the other at same elevation, with same length feeder. Lots of possible tutorial papers spring to mind, that I do not recall seeing in the last 10 or 20 years. You mostly see antennas and feeds combined in papers, without a detailed look at the feeder going to the same antenna but varying the feed method.

Looking at a Wire and Cable Handbook I have, I find the formula that says dielectric losses go up (directly proportional) to frequency. I always thought the greater amount of dielectric (around the electromagnetic field), would up the losses, at least it does in plastic covered parallel lines vs. open wire old time construction from most writers inferences. Now these findings with coax may also reflect that in the 50's they probably did not have the purest copper, and in fact may have been using plated steel in the Transmitting twin line. Coax has the advantage of greater conductor area in the shield if 96 per cent or better coverage. As to receiving line I bought by the 100's of feet for Novice first dipoles, it was twisted copper of about 20 gauge as I recall. You would think its ohmic loss negligible at 75 watts or less.

It is true that coax dielectrics today are higher quality I think, than those of 1956. The coax that uses air as a main spacer of course are very low loss, but highest cost.

One of my future retirement projects is to take some fine ceramic NOS insulators I have gotten from Fred Bonavita and make some "standard open wire line" to do some comparative measuring against other feeders. I think I will have to use no. 14 wire at least, to have something similar to the hand made line of early ham days.

But, they probably used 12 or so the old handbooks lead us to believe. Yet the standard for house wiring at the time was 14 and I think a lot of hams did as I tend to do, and go get whatever electric supply house wire is cheap. 14 should be close enough.

Another little footnote to antenna implementation!

73,

Stuart K5KVH

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 10:43:04 -0800
From: Stephen M Smith <sigcom@juno.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86139] Re: Ceramic/porcelain crystal
Message-ID: <20001212.113235.-324001.5.sigcom@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group,

Thanks for all the suggestions to use an octal socket. Yep, I've used

that trick before and if this was a HB rig, I probably would however I'm trying to keep the front panel of this rig somewhat original so that's why the bi-pin socket requirement. Thanks again everyone.

73.....Steve, WB6TNL The Scrounger
Oxnard, CA USA "snort rosin"

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:47:12 -0800
From: "Benjamin F. Poinsett" <benmail@erols.com>
To: wb8yyy@yahoo.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86140] Re:ZM-2 Front Panel Construction
Message-ID: <3A36AAF0.1D91B802@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Curt,

I built the ZM-2 some time ago. I used the white pre-printed front panel label that came with the kit. I did make some extra Xerox copies of this front panel -- just in case I messed it up. I then purchased some Avery clear laminate sheets and covered the original front panel label print. I then cut this out and attached it to the aluminum panel. I then carefully drilled the holes. Voila! It worked.

Good luck and 72 & 73,

Ben Poinsett, K3BP

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:57:12 -0500
From: "Stephen Krosner" <skrosner@mindspring.com>
To: "QRPList" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86141] FS: Yaesu FT900
Message-ID: <NEBBJD CMLJACOONPJJHAENHCDA.skrosner@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a mint condition FT900 160-10m transmit, 100kHz-30MHz receive CW, SSB, AM and FM. Power output adjustable to 100 watts (25 on AM. Internal Automatic Antenna Tuner. YSK-900 separation kit to allow remote mounting of front panel. Hand mike. Never used mobile.
\$600 packed and shipped CONUS. Please reply direct to <mailto:skrosner@mindspring.com>

Steve Krosner, K2ZPF

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:58:41 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <smckean@birch.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86142] Re: What IS "Real" QRP?
Message-ID: <200012121958.0AA18486@atlnet.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 12/8/00 16:08, smckean@birch.net at smckean@birch.net wrote:

> 1. Is it really a no no to schedule QSO's -- for whatever
> purpose?

I don't see a problem with it. I can understand that others might judge a non-schedule QSO as requiring greater skill / luck / time.

> 2. Am I bad if I put the QRP suffix on my call if I am calling CQ?

I don't think it makes any difference. Either callers can hear you and reply, or they can't hear you and don't reply. Adding /QRP doesn't really do anything.

> 3. If I am in QSO, is it OK to ask a station to listen while I
> reduce power further? (guilty again)

If only to determine what power level results in meaningful communication, sure.

> Are miles per watt meaningful only in random QSO's?

Depends. Are you talking about an award? If so, you need to talk to the award judges.

But, taking your example to extremes, why don't we all call CQ at 1500 watts, then reduce power to milliwatts to see if the other station can still hear us?

> 4. How about hanging around the QRP calling frequencies? Am
>I giving myself an unfair advantage by being where folks are
>listening for weak signals?

I don't think so. Seems that to get awards, you need to make Qs, and you can only do that by going where the activity is.

>I guess what I am asking is how much of a handicap do I have
>to impose on myself before I can consider myself a true QRP'er?

Whatever your conscience requires.

> Was I bad to give myself what advantages I could short of
>increasing power?

Not at all.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:05:17 -0500
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
To: <aa4lr@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86143] RE: What IS "Real" QRP?
Message-ID: <CKEGICNFDIMCEKEDCEHFAEAIFFCAA.n4xy@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Bill... the reason we don't call CQ at 1500W and then reduce power to the milliwatt level is that you could never be heard over his QRR-R-R-R level.

What's that you ask? The level of ringing in his ears, after your 1500W CQ.

73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@arrl.net>

website: <http://www.n4xy.com>

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:44:46 -0700
From: Ray Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86144] RE: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <3A368E3E.9E57D71D@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Some years ago, right after MFJ first came out with the 989, some had a lot of problems with arcing and poor performance on some frequency ranges - particularly 17 and 15 meters, if I remember correctly. There was an item that appeared in Hints & Kinks about that and it turned out that the manufacturer MFJ was using for the roller inductors had used the wrong pitch and possible the wrong number of turns (not sure of that part) and the pitch of the coil was what was causing the problem. Maybe a similar problem now? As I was qrp back then, I traded mine for a new 941 - just did not seem right to have a tuner with the entire station setting on top of it. GL solving your problems with the tuner.

--

"Politicians are like nappies. Both should be changed regularly -- and for the same reason"
"Scotsman - Scotsman's Diary 12/97"
Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M SOC#78 fp #111
NCT2 (also w5xe@juno.com El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

-----NetZero Free Internet Access and Email-----
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Request a CDRom 1-800-333-3633

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 16:09:31 -0500
From: ed.kwik@delphiauto.com

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86145] Michigan QRP Net Tonight
Message-ID: <052569B3.00746863.00@usabhmg99.mail.delphiauto.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

The snow has stopped and I am all shoveled out. If FYBO was going to be held tonight I would have a good temp/wind chill multi. Expecting something like 20 below for wind chill. Kinda wish I had a nice glowbug station to keep the shack warm. Any one got a crystal for 3.535? The MI QRP Net will be on its normal time (9:00 PM Eastern time) and frequency (3.535 MHz.). All check ins are welcome. We had a very good turn out last week with about ten check ins. Net will stay active until 10:00 PM so you can come by either before or after you work the FOX.

Ed AB8DF

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 16:15:37 -0500
From: "Wilford D. Lindsey" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
To: ".QRP-L Discussion Group" <QRP-L@Lehigh.edu>
Cc: ")W.D.(Doc)Lindsey/K0EVZ" <70511.3041@compuserve.com>
Subject: [86146] K0EVZ Cub FOX Log 1.1
Message-ID: <200012121615_MC2-BE48-3E9A@compuserve.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-Disposition: inline

Gang:

Well sorry for the typos. Here is the log with several corrections. If you see others, please do not hesitate to let me know. Thanks.

It was great to take part in this hunt last evening, and I want to thank all who took time to stop by. Did my best to work absolutely everyone and to keep my speed at 10 wpm word spacing. The band went from pretty good to very poor in the last quarter of the hunt, as you can see from my log. Sure hope it is better for the hunt tonight :-).

Time	Call	RST	S/P/C	Name	Pwr		
=3D=3D=3D=3D	=3D=3D=3D=3D	=3D=3D=3D=3D	=3D=3D=3D=3D	=3D=3D=3D	=3D=3D=3D=3D=3D	=3D=	
0200	N8VAR	559	OH	Ron	5w		
0203	N0TU	599	CO	Steve	5w		
0204	N4SO	599	AL	Ken	5w		
0206	W5YR	559	TX	Geo	5w		
0207	N5IB	559	LA	Jim	5w		

0209	AC5JH	559	OK	Tom	1w		
0211	W8YMO	569	OH	Harry	5w		
0213	W9WIS	599	WI	Mike	4w		
0216	WA7TQK	559	ID	Bill	5w		
0218	KC4URI	449	VA	Steve	5w		

0222	W0CH	579	MO	Dave	5w		
0223	WE6W	559	CA	Ed	5w		
0224	N8IE	589	OH	Dan	5w		
0230	NV4T	559	KY	Bill	5w		
0233	W8PIG	589	OH	Dan	5w		

0235	N4ROA	559	VA	Dan	4w		
0237	WB8ICN	589	MI	Ken	5w		
0238	K5DI	579	NM	Karl	5w		
0241	K5PSH	559	TX	Jerry	4w		
0243	KC8LTL	559	MI	Ken	5w		

0245	KC1FB	589	CT	Jim	5w		
0246	WA7SPY	559	CA	Glenn	5w		
0248	AF4LQ	569	KY	Mike	5w		
0250	WA7LNW	559	UT	Jack	5w		
0251	AF4PS	559	FL	Mac	4w		

0253	K4FB	569	FL	Paul	5w		
0254	NV4V	579	KY	Pete	5w		
0258	K4TJD	559	PA	Tom	4w		
0259	AA7EQ	559	AZ	Bob	5w		
0303	W3PNL	559	PA	Joe	3w		

0305	KK5LD	559	TX	Dan	5w		
0307	K9IUA	599	ND	Kevin	5w		
0309	AJ4AY	559	AL	Jay	5w		
0310	KR5C	599	TX	George	5w		
0313	K5DW	559	TX	Don	2w		

0314	W9UQB	559	AZ	Mike	5w		
0317	WD5CMA	559	LA	Gloria	900milliwatts		
0321	W2XN	329	FL	Fred	5w		

0328	N04D	229	SC	Ken	5w
0332	N10DL	339	NH	Aron	5w

0353 KG4FGC 559 NC Ken 5w
0000 K0EVZ ND Doc Da FOX :-)
42 total Cub FOX pelts, 22 S/P/C

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:19:42 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: K4IA@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86147] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <3A36966E.1D105C9@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Been using a 989C for the last three years. Took the covers off for a visual inspection right out of the box when I got it home. Very well done inside with excellent solder work. Could find no problems at all.

I have used this tuner for three years with a variety of antennas and never a problem of any kind. Wattmeter is very well calibrated - much better than my Bird 43.

Comparing my experience with what Buck writes suggests that MFJ has a QC/Test problem but not that *all* MFJ tuners are junk.

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE Dallas in Collin county QRP-L 1373
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756 PRO #02121 (9/00) Kachina #91900556 (12/99) IC-765 (6/90)

K4IA@aol.com wrote:

>
> I sampled MFJs Cadillac of a tuner, the 989C, (\$359) at my local HRO store.
> It was not a floor sample or demo. It was new -- right out of the box.
>
> The transmitter cap knob fell off in my hand and would not fit back on the
> shaft without turning freely. The roller inductor bound up and made grinding
> noises. There was a very bad and obvious cold solder joint on one of the
> caps. All this without applying any RF. Who knows what else may have gone
> wrong. My embarrassed salesman said they check every one before going out of
> the store because of problems like this. I would caution against buying one

> unless you get to play with it first.

>

> On the other hand, I got a used 949E on eBay and it works great. It does not
> have the roller inductor. That part seems to cause a lot of headaches.

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 16:22:15 -0500 (GMT+5)
From: wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86148] HR-1680 Repair
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.3.95.1001212161906.7457A-100000@butler.qrp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I had to do a simple repair to my Heathkit HR-1680 receiver.
Here's a web page with some pictures of the repair.
<http://butler.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/fix1680/>
I needed to fix my 1680 but I also want to play with taking scope
pictures with my digital camera.

Jim, WD9EYB

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:52:51 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: w5yr@att.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86149] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <3A369E33.A4D7E105@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"George, W5YR" wrote:

>

> Comparing my experience with what Buck writes suggests that MFJ has a
> QC/Test problem but not that *all* MFJ tuners are junk.

>

I agree, George. I've got four MFJ tuners and all are fine, a good
value.

However, one has ac inductor switch wired backwards vs. the manual and

all the others.

I did smoke a 100 watt MFJ tuner abt 20 yrs ago. But it had a toroid inductor which overheated with rated power into a very mismatched antenna. No problems with the air inductor units.

73, Phil W70X

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:55:03 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86150] Re: HR-1680 Repair
Message-ID: <3A369EB7.385564D6@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Your photos look good, Jim.

Intresting to see that big cap and terminal strip; definitely "your father's radio"!

Phil W70X

wd9eyb@butler.qrp.com wrote:

>
> I had to do a simple repair to my Heathkit HR-1680 receiver.
> Here's a web page with some pictures of the repair.
> <http://butler.qrp.com/~wd9eyb/fix1680/>
> I needed to fix my 1680 but I also want to play with taking scope
> pictures with my digital camera.
>
> Jim, WD9EYB

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:58:32 -0600
From: "James Parsons" <res075cz@gte.net>
To: <w5yr@att.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86151] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <012401c06486\$ab5bf6a0\$7c640304@dsl.vz.genuity.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I. too, have used the 989C for over three years. The only problem I have had with it is the meter lamp burning out. I ordered two lamps from MFJ, and they are not cheap. But they last a long time. I have never used my tuner for over 1000 watts, and usually no more than 600-700 watts. How well it would hold up under higher power inputs I cannot say.

I don't find the meter to be as accurate as my Bird. It reads fairly close but is not linear across its range. If I run power to put the meter in the middle of the range it is fairly accurate. But I would not want to use it for a reference. Also it does not read true peak power. It is typical of a capacitor type peak reading meter.

I also have an MFJ-945 and an MFJ 901B tuner and I have had no trouble with any of them. However, I always do the initial tune-up on very low power and do not increase power until I get the tuning where it should be.

I feel I got my money's worth, and maybe a bit more.

Jim, K5ROV

James (Jim) Parsons, K5ROV, CMSgt, USAF, Ret., Ham for 58 yrs.

k5rov@arrl.net, QCWA, ARCI, Fists, ARRL, ARMS.

EX: W1RLA, K5FBB, K4FEO, SV0WN (CRETE), SV0WN (RHODES),

DL4NC, DL4JP, KA2FC (JAPAN), KA2JP (JAPAN).

JOHN 3:16

----- Original Message -----

From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2000 15:19 PM

Subject: Re: MFJ PROBLEM

> Been using a 989C for the last three years. Took the covers off for a
> visual inspection right out of the box when I got it home. Very well
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> I have used this tuner for three years with a variety of antennas and
> never a problem of any kind. Wattmeter is very well calibrated - much
> better than my Bird 43.

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>
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> > caps. All this without applying any RF. Who knows what else may have
gone
> > wrong. My embarrassed salesman said they check every one before going
out of
> > the store because of problems like this. I would caution against buying
one
> > unless you get to play with it first.
> >
> > On the other hand, I got a used 949E on eBay and it works great. It
does not
> > have the roller inductor. That part seems to cause a lot of headaches.

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 13:58:01 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86152] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <3A369F69.30C74493@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"ac inductor" should say an inductor!

Phil

Phil Wheeler wrote:

>
> "George, W5YR" wrote:
> >
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> > QC/Test problem but not that *all* MFJ tuners are junk.

> >
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> value.
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> However, one has ac inductor switch wired backwards vs. the manual and
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>
> I did smoke a 100 watt MFJ tuner abt 20 yrs ago. But it had a toroid
> inductor which overheated with rated power into a very mismatched
> antenna. No problems with the air inductor units.
>
> 73, Phil W7OX

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:12:08 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [86153] Transistors and Tuners
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10012121501010.1850-1000000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

In the olden days of the Heathkit DX-100 you had a pie network
final amplifier output circuit and you could match the final to coax with
a real high SWR. In those days you added a little coax to the feedline if
it didn't load well, and it worked!

Today your radio has a wideband transformer that is not adjustable
and will match only a 50 ohm load. There are no exceptions. So if your not
able to get all your antenna's to be 50 +j0 at the feed point, you need a
thing called an Antenna Tuner. This device converts the odd impedance of
your feedline to an output impedance of 50 +j0 ohms. Your transmitter is
now happy and puts out full power.

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:14:34 -0800
From: Phil Wheeler <w7ox@earthlink.net>
To: k5di@zianet.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86154] Re: Transistors and Tuners
Message-ID: <3A36A34A.FF9C0035@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

"Karl F. Larsen" wrote:

>
> In the olden days of the Heathkit DX-100 you had a pie network
> final amplifier output circuit and you could match the final to coax with
> a real high SWR. In those days you added a little coax to the feedline if
> it didn't load well, and it worked!
>

Quite true. My AL-811H (four 811 tubes) amp will also load 3:1 easily
with no tuner: Nice!

Ooops ... NOT qrp!

Phil W7OX

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:59:08 -0600
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: Qrp-l Reflector <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86155] CUB FOX HUNT: Wednesday Night - N0IT
Message-ID: <3A369FAC.52771287@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Double your fun!

N0IT will join VE3FAL, the other cub fox on Wednesday night, December 13.
As usual I will start at 2000 Central time (this will be 0200Z on
Thursday morning, 14 December). This will be my makeup from last week.

VE3FAL and I have inadvertently chose frequencies not too far apart.
Since I'm the makeup, I will look for the main fox first and then move to
the opposite end of the Novice segment. His posting indicated he was
going to be operating 7125 so I will attempt to find a spot around
7140. But since this is open to change, be careful and make sure you
know which fox you are working. We may have flipped frequencies again.
HI.

Per the FOX rules, my CW speed will be as close to ten wpm as I can make it. I prefer that you send your call twice, listen for a response, then send it maybe one more time. I will give your call at the beginning and end of my report. If I catch a partial call, I will come back with something like K8R? Be alert and give me a quick fill but only if that is close to your actual call.

BTW, I'm located in state of Missouri. I just noticed on the calendar that I'm still listed as MS.

Here's hoping for great propagation and a good hunt. Temperature is right around zero here in Missouri, so I definitely will be home and there shouldnt be any qrn to speal of. This should be a great chance for everyone to grab two pelts in short order. See you Wednesday evening.

72/73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 16:19:30 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <w2agn@pobox.com>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86156] Ladder safe footing
Message-ID: <00e701c06489\$98e474e0\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

John,

Sorry to hear of your accident, but maybe as an old, (but not bold), volunteer fireman, I can remind all of some ladder placement safety tips. (The rest of the story- there are no Old, & bold, firemen, if they practice safety.)

Hopefully, your aluminum ladder should have had plastic or rubber pads for safe grip on slippery concrete. Only one end will be equipped this way, and this is the footing end.

What happens to most ladder placement victims, is the ladder is not placed at the proper angle. The easiest way to get the right angle to the building, is to place the ladder with it resting on a firm side of the roof or building wall. To check the ladder angle, step up to it, so that you can just grasp the rung opposite your shoulders, with your arms straight out. When the angle is correct, you can do this with your toes at the bottom of the ladder. If the ladder is not at the right angle, reposition it before letting anyone climb.

You can walk a light aluminum ladder up from the narrow side by yourself, and I find this easier to do than walking it up under the broad, (business

side). That also is good for narrow side yards and alleys in the Fire business.

For heavy ladders, or big extension ladders, get a helper. It is always safer to have someone heeling the ladder as you climb. They should brace their foot broadside to the ladder beam, (the part touching the ground), to provide a broad footprint to resist sliding. They should hold the beams (side vertical members) with their hands straight out. Do not hold the rungs, for you would have to loosen your grip to let someone climb down or up.

If for some reason you are on a ladder and have to get down quick, (like being stung by wasps), you can slide down the beams, providing you warn your safety person to watch out! When climbing, you should move one foot and hand at a time, so you always are gripping or standing on one rung. You go up in a hand over hand manner, with each hand on a different rung, just in case they come loose.

Now that your ladder is bent, it should be history for climbing, (it is not safe, and has exceeded its working load).

However, if not bent too much, you might be able to use it as an field antenna support. Look in the Lee book on verticals as to how he even loaded a vertical ladder as an antenna. It was quite broadbanded because of its cross sectional area! If used at field day, guys can be looped over the upper beam ends and two from each run out to make a very good small beam support. It is better to drive some angle iron into the soil to anchor the bottom of the beams, and use either stainless steel hose clamps for that, or U bolts.

Good luck and stay safe while climbing,

73

Stuart K5KVH

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:22:39 -0800

From: "Phinizy, William" <wphinizy@filenet.com>

To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86157] FS: Ten-Tec 1253 Regen Receiver (built)

Message-ID: <C3AF5E329E21D2119C4C00805F6FF58F04B76888@hq-expo2.filenet.com>

..works great! Only mods are: battery shelf is omitted (runs from external 12 VDC) and antenna connector is a Banana female instead of the original wing nut. I will send along the battery shelf *and* 8 "C" cells as well as the original antenna connector parts. Asking \$50 OBO -- and will pay shipping at \$50.

W. H. Phinizy, K6WHP
Principal Engineer
FileNET Corporation

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 17:19:36 -0500
From: "George Heron N2APB" <n2apb@erols.com>
To: "NJQRP" <NJQRP@njqrp.org>, "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86158] N2APB QRV in Swiss Alps on Wednesday
Message-ID: <000001c0648a\$b92ef260\$50c809c0@gheron>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Will be mountaintop in Swiss Alps and QRV on Wednesday 1300Z (8am EST, 5am PST). Will be on the air for about 1-2 hours.

Will be working QRP power levels on:
-- 20m PSK31 (14.071) and
-- 20m CW (14.060)

72,
--George N2 APB (signing hb9/N2APB/p)

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 16:31:40 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <agtaylor@llnl.gov>
Cc: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86159] Cleaning Aluminum elements
Message-ID: <00f301c0648b\$4c297130\$5ac07481@rohredt2000>

Allan,
A Scotchbrite pad does quite well as a low abrasive cleaner. For the sliding parts and electrical contact, you can either use Butternut "Butter its Not" grease, or the NoOx and similar conductive greases made and sold for aluminum wire to copper electrical connections. A wholesale electrical supply house should have the larger sizes, while small tubes are sold at Lowe's and Home Depot home centers and some hardware stores. Always use

NoOx or equivalent on the beam telescoping parts both to ease taking them apart and for conductivity. Same for joints on multiband verticals.

GL and 72,
Stuart k5KVH

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:55:21 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86160] BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
Message-ID: <3A36ACD9.59FDF55D@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The ol' BB3 screwdriver antenna is coming along nicely, albeit slowly. I reported, I think, that I did a complete tear down and rebuild of the antenna.

Since the mounting hardware screw on the bottom is Hot, (i.e. connected to the antenna directly, not ground), I added some exterior sleeving cut from RG-213 coax as an insulator and covered the screw so it doesn't short out to the new ground plate I built. I added a angle bracket and am not looking for a heavy support to bury in the ground for backyard operation and testing of the antenna.

I have the 50:3X ohms transformer (un-un) mounted with RTV sealant atop the upper insulator sandwiching the grounding plate. One unique idea I had was to connect to the antenna via one of the holes in the antenna bottom which hold the brass plug. I removed one 1/4-20 TPI screw and inserted a 1/4"-20 TPI brass rod and that is now where the transformer connects for the 32-37 ohm output. The 50 ohm transformer input goes to a BNC which is fed from the bottom and the screw of the chassis mount connector is on top of the ground plane. I added two short sections of threaded brass rod to the ground plate for the radials.

I have to wire up the UP/Down switch for controlling the 12 Volt motor. I'll have a momentary switch and a 2PDT switch. The 2PDT is for motor forward/Reverse and the pushbutton is for actually powering the motor. I don't need a 3 position switch this way but I do have to hold the button down for awhile when changing bands.....

I'm not sure how to connect to the top of the antenna but I found out that those cheap multi-screwdriver/hammers have the correct thread and are brass so I could easily drill a hole and solder to the hammer shaft.

Hmmmm, the we6w hammer-head antenna! Har!
(You heard it here first... so sorry :-)
Later folks.
-Ed

--
72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

-----NetZero Free Internet Access and Email-----
<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 14:58:52 -0800
From: Ed Loranger <we6w@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateru Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86161] Re: BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
Message-ID: <3A36ADAC.B879DB8D@qsl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

and am not looking for a heavy support to bury in the ground

SHUD BE:
and am NOW looking for a heavy
around the house...
-Ed

--
72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068
<http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA
My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

Why pay for something you could get for free?
NetZero provides FREE Internet Access and Email

<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 18:10:34 -0500 (EST)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [86162] HYgain antenna wind test
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0012121803050.404-1000000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Well, last night I decided to test the wind speed survival of my Hygain DX88 ground mounted vertical. When the winds got past 60 miles per hour, the antenna base gave it up. It snapped right off. When I got the antenna it seemed heavy duty. That is except for the antenna mounting plate at the base. It was never a good match for the height and wind load. Now I have to wait for an early spring thaw so I can plant the Butternut HF9V that is waiting in the wings.

BTW my Radio shack deluxe TV antenna also gave up a couple elements last night . Flimsy construction or just too windy, you be the judge :)

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 23:11:03 -0000
From: "Don Chisholm" <don.chisholm@home.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [86163] Re: MFJ PROBLEM
Message-ID: <009f01c06490\$cd01f660\$6501a8c0@roalok1.mi.home.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I had a 949E tuner, running close to its limit (300 W from a tube-type Yaesu) for a while - it was really NOT a 300w tuner - more like a 100w transistorized rig tuner - George Lucas would have been proud of the arcs and sparks!

Another problem I had was the meter diodes would occasionally go out if there was excessive static in the environment. I had a marginal (at best) station ground and fog/snow charged the desk up quite a bit. The diodes were

replaced a few times before I finally put heftier ones in.

I don't remember what happened to that tuner, but I suspect I gave it away .

. .

74

Don

WX3M

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:18:44 -0800 (PST)
From: Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
To: qrp qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [86164] Want to trade HTX-10 10 meter rig for ???
Message-ID: <20001212231844.98211.qmail@web10004.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

I have a HTX-10 that I would like to give a new home. I would like to trade it for something QRP related. Love to get another LDG autotuner but will entertain offers of other gear. Anyone interested in trading for it?

Happy Holidays and 73!

jeff

=====
AB6MB
Stop censorship on mailing lists!
NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780, ARCI 10071
Radical FIST Member 6798

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Shopping - Thousands of Stores. Millions of Products.
<http://shopping.yahoo.com/>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 15:33:50 -0800
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, <we6w@qsl.net>
Subject: [86165] RE: BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BDC-001212233350Z-423@mail.amgt.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ed,

One of the reasons I prefer the original DK3.... Let alone it's half the price, my DK3 uses a Z match at the base so the antenna can be mounted without the use of an insulated mount. I would think it wouldn't be too hard to mod your BB3 for the same thing. The Z match in this case is 6 or 7 turns on the same form as the main coil. Sliding that into the base of the antenna and then using another piece of 2" copper pipe for the other side of the Z match and you're set. Just one note - you can only tap the Z match for use on 80M, 40 doesn't require it. Even though the match is only good for one band, the SWR on the other is 1.3:1 - good enough for me since it's on a band I don't normally run mobile. My DK3 amassed 52K miles on it before needing to be torn apart. I will be using copper for the base and center portion of the antenna instead of aluminum. Either way, this kind of mobile antenna really performs!! Did you take any pictures when your antenna was apart??

72

.mark

>-----

>From: Ed Loranger[SMTP:we6w@qsl.net]
>Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2000 2:55 PM
>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
>Subject: BB3 Screwdriver Antenna update.

>

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>nice, albeit slowly. I reported, I think, that I
>did a complete tear down and rebuild of the antenna.

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>hot, (i.e. connected to the antenna directly, not ground),
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>of threaded brass rod to the ground plate for the radials.

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>motor. I'll have a momentary switch and a 2PDT switch. The
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>the correct thread and are brass so I could easily drill a hole
>and solder to the hammer shaft.

>

>HMMMMM, the we6w hammer-head antenna! Har!

>(You heard it here first... so sorry :-)

>Later folks.

>-Ed

>

>--

>72/Ed WE6W; A-1 Op; SOC#63; QRPL#1068

><http://www.qsl.net/we6w> Santa Rosa, CA

>My 2 pennies worth is just common cents.

>

>

>

>_____NetZero Free Internet Access and Email_____

> <http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

>

Date: Tue, 12 Dec 2000 18:35:18 -0500

From: "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <k2jq@bestweb.net>

To: <n2go@arrl.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [86166] Re: HYGain antenna wind test

Message-ID: <00d301c06494\$30860200\$2307b3d8@obvious>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, we had similar high winds here in southeastern NY State.

In addition to "doing a job" on my Butternut HF-6V, the wind snapped my next

door neighbor's tree off at almost ground level, ripping down the power and telephone lines to my house, and totally messing up (I'm not sure if it's totalled) my 2000 Chevy.

I'm REALLY not in the mood for laughter right now, but "funny" thing is that I have to file insurance claims with MY car and home insurance company (subject to deductibles) for damage caused by THEIR tree !!

We have known these neighbors for almost 20 years, and we're GREAT friends.....anyone ever hear of a "friendly" lawsuit ??

I gues today just WASN'T my day !

72/73,
Dick K2JQ

End of QRP-L Digest 2034

